The Guide
resident
December 2018
theresident.co.uk

MAKING HISTORY
Ranger's House in Greenwich reopens

A LOCAL CHRISTMAS
Discover the best of the festivities in south east London this year

Greenwich Food Bank Donations

During 2018 Conran have been supporting our local food bank in Greenwich. I feel it is such a needy cause and it is shameful that there is such extreme need for this service - seeing as austerity has allegedly ended!

As Christmas nears, it would be great to increase supplies and I wanted to take this opportunity to remind you that **every** Conran office has a food cage where you are welcome to deposit donations and we will organise for your donation to reach its rightful destination in time for Christmas.

The items needed now are;

- Cereal
- Soup
- Rice
- Tinned products (not baked beans)
- Tea / coffee
- UHT milk
- Fruit juice
- Toiletries
- Toilet paper

We are also collecting small wrapped Christmas presents for the food bank to give to parents for their children on Christmas Day. Last Christmas one donor wrapped 60 boys presents and 60 girls presents which was a great idea!

I look forward to seeing you.

Regards

Simon

Greenwich foodbank

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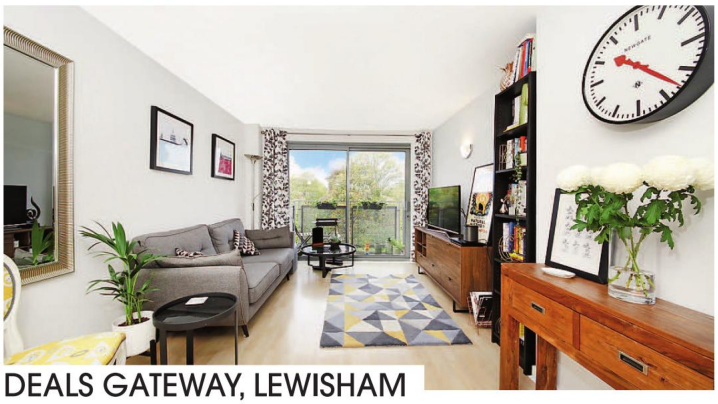

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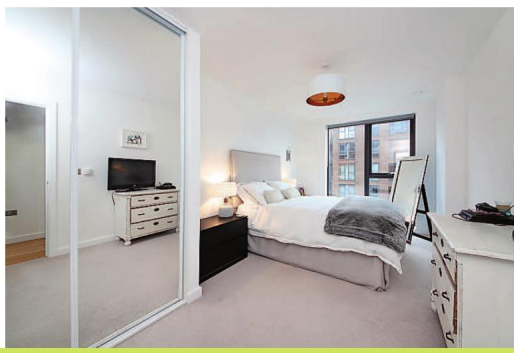

MEDISPA NR WILMSLOW

Dr Nyla's Christmas count down

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Merry Christmas

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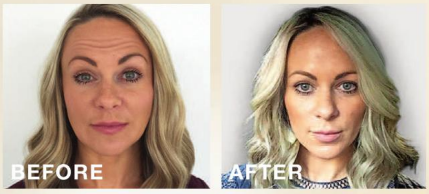

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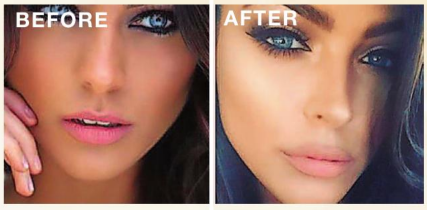

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CONTENTS

Culture

09 Make sure you don't miss out on some of the best cultural events in your area

12 Mat Collishaw is bringing his art to Queen's House in Greenwich

Indulge

26 Delve into the new Borough Market Cookbook for some inspiration

Design

34 How AO Architecture are reaching new heights in Peckham Levels

40 Make your dining space the best looking this Christmas

46 How to design your house so that it is fit for the big day

Gift Guides

51 From art prints to gourmet gadgets, find the best presents for your loved ones

Lifestyle

69 Why this hotel in Cheltenham would make the perfect winter break

70 Fancy some late sun? Head to this stunning resort in Greece

Property

77 Discover why London living over the festive period is hard to beat

On the cover

16
Ranger's House in Greenwich reopens to the public

18
Discover the best places to head to for festive fun in south east London

COVER IMAGE: Rebecca Lea Williams; rebsville.com

MAKE UP BY LISA FRANKLIN; LISAFRANKLIN.LONDON; PHOTO BY TOM DUNKLEY

DECEMBER 2018

Letter from the EDITOR

It's the most wonderful time of the year! I can finally say that it is here. December has arrived, the carols are starting to blast out from every street corner making the dark and often wet nights feel remarkably more cosy and magical, and it's acceptable to have a mince pie whenever you so fancy. How could anyone possibly dislike Christmas?

You see, it's quite a weird one when you work in the world of magazines and publishing, as we've been working on these Christmas issues since the sun was still well and truly shining through the August heatwave. So it's quite easy to become sick of the sight and thought of it before it has even begun. But, for me, I just find that I get more and more excited, yet the actual period that is acceptable for me to be outwardly excited in takes a million years to come around! Now that I am officially allowed to be excited, I'm going to go all out.

Which is pretty easy when our area is so good at making the most of the magical season. Most of my favourite memories of Christmas revolve around being out and about in the crisp air, mooching around markets that fill you with warmth and excitement or carol singing around the houses while being as wrapped up as humanly possible. I think a lot of the magic of Christmas comes from the sense of nostalgia it evokes too, so I don't think my approaches have changed much year on year.

Considering the wealth of events and treats being staged around *The Guide Resident* patch, it seems that I'm in for a treat. From markets galore, to theatre and family craft events, there really is something for everyone out there to get hyped up in time for the big day. I will definitely be making time for Open Studios in Deptford, where I'm hoping I can find some unique gifts for those hard to buy for in my family.

Although I'm a firm believer that Christmas shouldn't be all about the idea of giving and receiving, I do like to make sure that I spend time on finding gifts for people that are a little bit different. Our Christmas Gift Guides this year should help you do the same, as they are full to the brim of different, unique ideas for those who you want to spoil. Turn to page 51 to get inspired! Happy, happy Christmas all!

Bethan

Bethan Andrews, Editor
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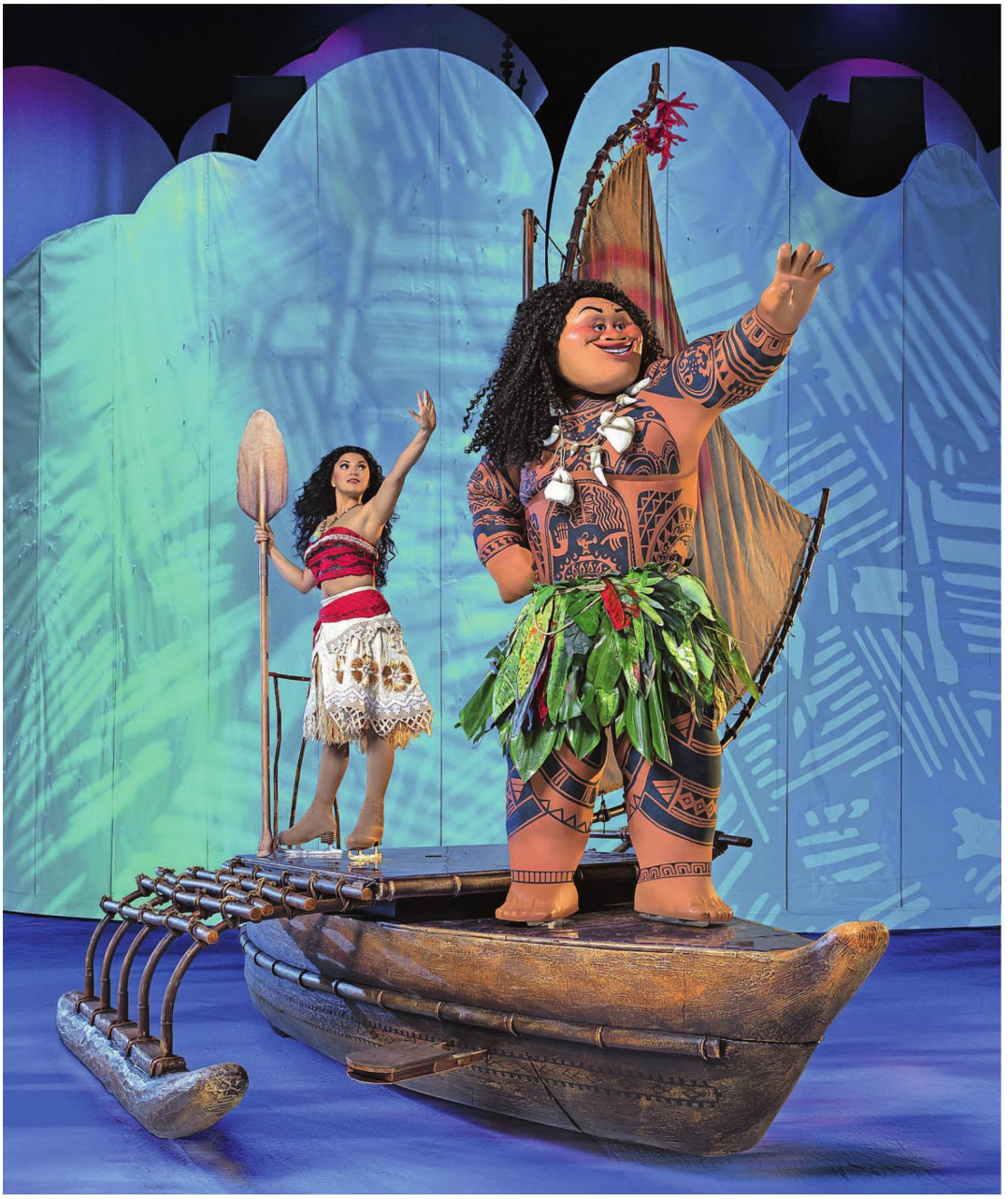
CULTURE



MOANA ON ICE

Moana makes her London debut live on the ice rink this festive season. *Disney On Ice presents Dream Big* lands at The O2 on 26 December 2018, running until 6 January 2019. The all-new production by Feld Entertainment captures the magic and adventure of Disney's immortal tales – including *Moana, Frozen, Beauty and the Beast* and *Aladdin* and *Tangled* – through cutting edge figure-skating with high-flying jumps, eye-catching costumes and impressive set designs. *The Guide Resident* is offering two lucky readers the chance to win family tickets to the new ice spectacular – enter online at theresident.co.uk/london-competitions

The O2, Peninsula Square SE10 0DX; disneyonice.co.uk

AROUND AND ABOUT

The finest in cultural events and new launches

A festive tradition

It's that time of year again when the Christmas lights are shining, the days are getting colder and seasonal favourite *The Nutcracker* is back on at the Royal Opera House. Performed by The Royal Ballet, this Christmas treat is back on at the iconic venue from 3 December until 15 January on the main stage. It's the perfect opportunity for the whole family to fall in love with the spectacle of world class ballet once again by watching the wonderful dancers perform Peter Wright's much loved choreography. It follows the traditional tale of Clara who is given an enchanted Nutcracker doll on Christmas Eve and finds a magical adventure waiting for her downstairs as the clock strikes midnight. Part of seasonal history, the ballet has been charming children and adults alike since The Royal Ballet first performed it in 1984 with its spectacle, glamour and good helping of magic.

Bow Street, WC2E 9DD; roh.org.uk

No strings attached

This month the Albany in Deptford is putting on a special adaptation of the classic tale *Pinocchio* for all the family, featuring everything from circus to puppets. The story follows the much-loved characters of Geppetto and Pinocchio as they meet all manner of strange animals including a shady fox, a performing donkey and a terrible whale who swallows people up whole. Combined with a magical set and soundtrack, the production looks set to keep the children engaged and the adults entertained with plenty of mischief and fun. It runs from 2 until 29 December with a number of special British Sign Language and Audio Described shows.

Douglas Way, Deptford, SE8 4AG; thealbany.org.uk

SKATES ON

Somerset House's much-loved ice rink is back for another year of excitement this month at the iconic venue. Set against the background of the beautiful building, Skate with Fortnum and Mason is a firm favourite for Londoners looking to escape the busy shopping streets and make the most of all the fun on the ice. This year brings with it Skate Lates with special music nights throughout the season as well as the classic Fortnum's Christmas Arcade to do some shopping. And don't worry, if you're more content as a spectator rather than whizzing around on the ice, there's a special rink-side lounge to relax in with a hot tipple. The ice rink is open seven days a week right up until 13 January, with a number of special late openings, so there's plenty of opportunity to get your skates on.

Somerset House, Strand, WC2R 1LA; somersethouse.org.uk

Window dressing

Greenwich's windows will be coming to life in spectacular fashion this month as they celebrate advent with a number of unique festive designs. The project began way back in 2007 and every year since has seen the newly decorated windows revealed day by day all over the town centre. This year the theme is Field of Dreams so see if you can spot them all this December!

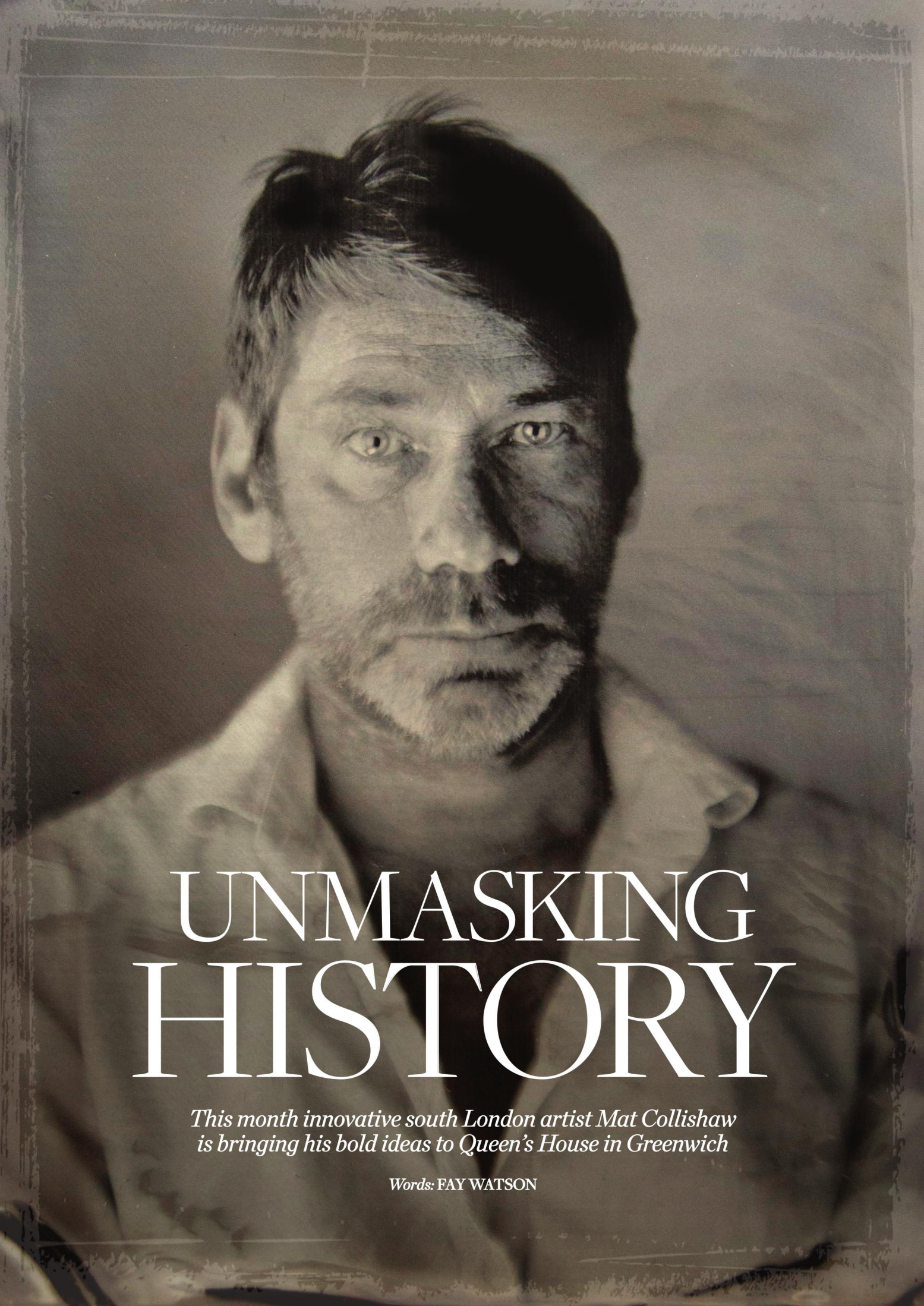
adventwindows.com

IF THE SHOE FITS

It's behind you! When the festive months come along, they bring with them many joys, but perhaps going to a pantomime is the highlight. Full of laughs, fantastic costumes and the classic panto dame, they're great fun for all ages and this year Bromley's Churchill Theatre is definitely not planning to disappoint. *Birds of a Feather* and *Strictly Come Dancing* star Lesley Joseph is leading the cast of *Cinderella* as the Fairy Godmother. Audiences can delight in the classic rags to riches tale of young Cinderella, in this all-singing and all-dancing adaptation full of beautiful costumes and a fabulous orchestra.

High Street, Bromley, BR1 1HA; churchilltheatre.co.uk

CREDITS: THE NUTCRACKER BY TRISTRAM KENTON; PINOCCHIO BY CHRISTIAN WOOD; SKATE AT SOMERSET HOUSE BY DAVID JENSEN



UNMASKING HISTORY

This month innovative south London artist Mat Collishaw is bringing his bold ideas to Queen's House in Greenwich

Words: FAY WATSON

Mat Collishaw is an artist famed as much for his stark representations of the macabre as his desire to be on the cusp of innovation. From his gruesome 1988 *Bullet Hole*, a depiction of a head wound mounted on 15 lightboxes that announced his presence in the contemporary art world, to his complete restaging of the 1839 exhibition by William Henry Fox Talbot through virtual reality, this mentality has seen him produce some of Britain's most exciting contemporary art.

First emerging into the spotlight among a group of influential artists graduating from Goldsmiths in the late 1980s, Collishaw appeared in fellow student Damien Hirst's show *Freeze* (1988) while still in his second year of university. It was from this show that Collishaw and Hirst became known in the group of Young British Artists, which featured a number of notable graduates from that period including Sam Taylor-Wood and Gillian Wearing.

'There was quite a good atmosphere down there I think for cross fertilisation of ideas and works that people were making. It all became quite a fertile area,' he tells me when we speak of his time at Goldsmiths, adding that the exhibition was their opportunity to immerse themselves in the professional art world.

ABOVE: Collishaw's latest exhibition features an imagination of what Elizabeth I may have actually looked like aged 55

BELOW: The piece of work has been made in response to the Armada portrait of Elizabeth I

While he did not blow up like Hirst after Goldsmiths, Collishaw's work has slowly gained traction in the years since for both his graphic pieces and his use of cutting edge technology. Now he not only has a number of solo exhibitions under his belt, but his work sits in some of the world's most prestigious public collections including at the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris, the Museum of Contemporary Art in San Diego and the Tate.

As you might imagine, then, art has been a love that Collishaw has nurtured from a young age. Growing up in Nottingham, it was a passion throughout his childhood. 'I wasn't really aware of it for a long time, but that was all I ▸

Official fuel economy figures for the BMW X7 Series range: Urban 26.6 – 38.7 mpg (10.6 – 7.3 l/100 km). Extra Urban 37.7 – 46.3 mpg (7.5 – 6.1 l/100 km). Combined 32.5 – 43.5 mpg (8.7 – 6.5 l/100 km). CO_2 emissions 198 – 171 g/km. Figures are obtained in a standardised test cycle. They are intended for comparisons between vehicles and may not be representative of what a user achieves under usual driving conditions.

was doing consistently,' he tells me. 'I was just drawing most of the time and that seemed to be the one common thing out of everything that I was involved in that I was any good at doing. A bit by default, art was the thing that I found myself doing.'

In the contemporary art world, one thing that Collishaw has been widely recognised for are his more graphic works, including his photographs of squashed butterflies and his zoetrope of birds of paradise performing mating rituals. 'I'm very interested in why it is we seem to be drawn towards images and films and theatre and books about subject matter that seems a little unhealthy and distasteful,' he tells me when we discuss the impulse behind creating works like these. 'It's a subject that interests me because I'm disturbed by our attraction to these images of violence and suffering, but I'm not trying to moralise them and say it's wrong,' he adds. 'I think it's more interesting and nuanced and complex than that.'

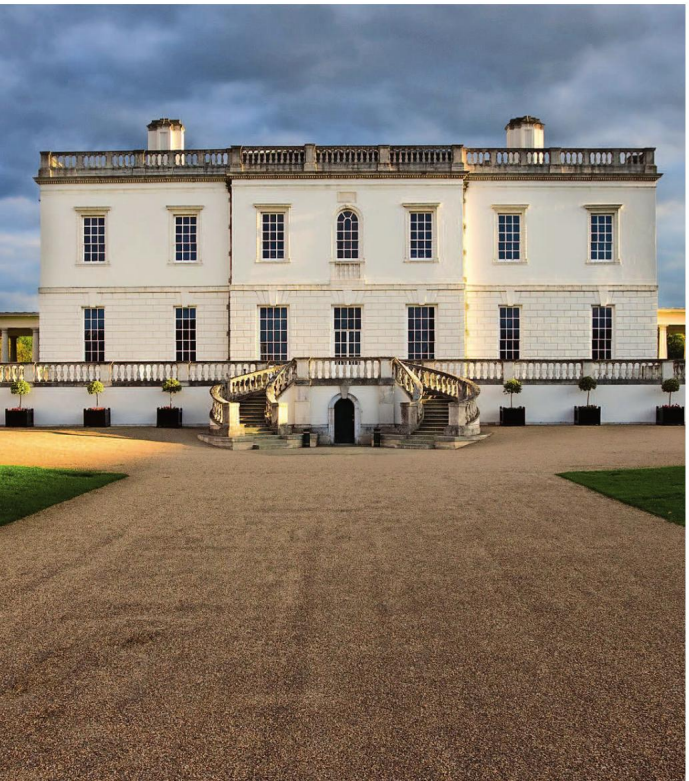
The 52-year-old artist lives in Camberwell near his old student haunts with his girlfriend, the artist Polly Morgan, and two of his sons (his eldest has moved out). It's an area he has loved since his time studying at Goldsmith's former campus in the area.

His south east London location has also meant that he spends a good amount of time visiting Greenwich from bringing his dogs down to Greenwich Park as well as having fond memories of going on the Cutty Sark as a child. It was therefore a special thrill to be commissioned for a new exhibition at the Queen's House in the area. The show, *Mask of Youth*, opened in October in response to the iconic Armada portrait that hangs in the Queen's Chamber and centres around a disembodied mechanical head of Queen Elizabeth I that literally follows you as you move around the room. The animated mask was created to depict what the Tudor Queen may have actually looked like at the time of the Armada painting, to raise questions about sovereignty and identity.

'The more I read, the more elusive she seemed'

ABOVE: Collishaw is one of the UK's most exciting contemporary artists

BELOW: The exhibition is on at the Queen's House until February next year



'The more I read, the more elusive she seemed,' Collishaw tells me of his research into the Tudor queen. 'Although there's a lot of accounts about her and a lot of paintings of her, she always seemed to be behind this mask and it made sense that, because she was a woman in a man's world and she came from a family environment where her mother had been beheaded at the instruction of her father, which is not the greatest security as far as background goes.'

Created through extensive research into her as well as her scans from her death mask, Collishaw tells me that he wanted to create something tangible and real of the 55-year-old queen in contrast to the polished perfection we see in the portrait. This helps to break down the personal and public consciousness of the Queen in comparison to a painting which shows her more as an imperial figurehead than a person – indeed, she's painted with her hand on the globe sitting against the backdrop of the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588. 'It very much instilled in you this idea of this great sovereign nation of England and it looked like a propaganda portrait,' Collishaw explains, adding he hopes the vulnerably of the work may add another layer to this.

'I'm constantly looking for new ways of making work, and in particular in using new technologies and linking that with historical ideas,' he explains. 'Using stuff from history, but then using it with new technology so that the contrast there is, for me, quite interesting, to be resurrecting things from the past using new means.' And with this major new exhibition, it's fair to say that Collishaw achieves just that... r

Mask of Youth is on display at Queen's House on Romney Road until 3 February 2019

CREDITS: MAIN IMAGE, MAT COLLISHAW 2017, WET COLLODION PORTRAIT, COURTESY THE ARTIST AND BLAINSOUTHERN; ARMADA PORTRAIT OF ELIZABETH I, TINA WARNER / JON STOKES, COPYRIGHT NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM, GREENWICH, LONDON, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED; EXHIBITION SHOTS BY DAVID WESTWOOD; QUEEN'S HOUSE BY ANNADUDEK; GETTY IMAGES

RANGE OF ART

Ranger's House in Greenwich has opened its doors to the public again, showcasing the Wernher Collection

Words: ALEXANDER LARMAN

Amidst the Georgian splendour and lavishness of Greenwich, there is a red-brick Palladian mansion, adjacent to the Park, which is one of this fine area's greatest treasures. The so-called Ranger's House was originally christened Chesterfield House when it was built in the early 1720s, but had its name changed in the 19th century to acknowledge its reputation as the home of the Ranger of Greenwich Park; this was a royal position given to the great and good of the day, rather than a reference to someone roaming the park at all hours.

Nonetheless, the most significant association with the Ranger's House today is that it holds the Wernher Collection, one of England's most significant collections of fine art, and a recent renovation and 'refreshment' has meant that, rather than have to take guided tours, visitors are free to wander at their own pace during the House's opening hours (currently Sunday–Wednesday), and visit the 11 splendidly decorated rooms that house the collection.

Each of these contains a so-called 'star object', which include a gold earring in the shape of Victory, the Greek goddess of war, which dates back to 2 BC; a stunning carved pendant in the shape of a skull from around 1500; a glittering silver gilt, steel and nautilus shell cup and a beautiful enamelled jug depicting the Greek god Triton.

This magnificent assortment was put together in the late 19th and early 20th century by

the diamond magnate Julius Wernher, who was once reputed to be one of the wealthiest men who ever lived, and he had an eclectic taste in his collection. In addition to the beautiful and the stylish, including masterpieces by Joshua Reynolds and the Dutch Old Masters, he also had an unexpected affinity for what the curator Dr Sophie Moulden calls the 'splendidly ugly'; in her words: 'Sir Julius Wernher had a distinct eye for quality and collected objects from across Europe and beyond.

His particular passion was for what he called the "splendidly ugly", artworks mainly from the medieval and Renaissance periods, which were typically small, unusual in their subject matter and expertly crafted from richly embellished materials. Most of the ivories, metalwork, woodcarvings and enamels you can see at Ranger's embody these characteristics. And in their iconography, intended functions and histories, they encapsulate universal human concerns such as love and death, storytelling and devotion, beauty and identity.'

'The Wernher Collection is one of the greatest private collections of art ever assembled in Europe'

The art has not always been based in Greenwich – originally, it was housed in Wernher's residence in central London, Bath House, and at his country seat, Luton Hoo. Yet the association with Ranger's House is now the key one for most visitors; although Wernher never lived there himself, photographs of how he arranged his collection in his own homes have informed the arrangement.

The refurbishment and readjustment of the collection should, if there is any justice, rehabilitate what has been something of an unjustly neglected treasure trove of art and artefacts – even the less aesthetically appealing ones. But then, as Moulden says: 'The Wernher Collection is one of the greatest private collections of art ever assembled in Europe, and is unique in both its quality and breadth. Many of the works are extremely rare and unique examples of their kind. Displayed together, their individual stories reveal much about the making, meaning and movement of art objects on a world stage.'

Being able to see art this inspiring and unusual, in such wonderful settings, is a great privilege. It is displayed at Ranger's on a 125-year loan; long enough for even the most laid-back of SE-based dwellers to head over there to view this stunning assortment of treasures. ■

Ranger's House, Chesterfield Walk SE10 8QX; english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/rangers-house-the-wernher-collection/

THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR

Are you ready to get into the fully festive spirit? We've rounded up the best places in south east London for you to head to this year

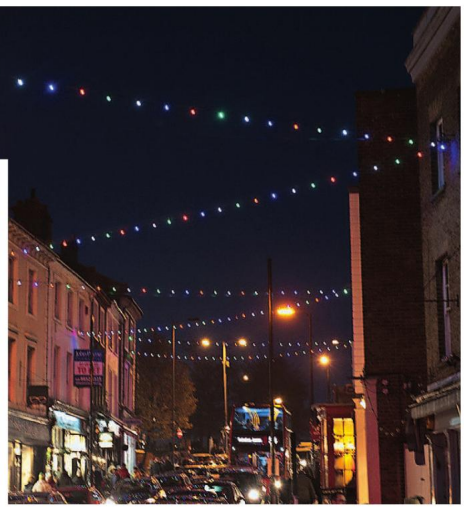
Words: HANNAH LAWRENCE

It's that time of year again when the nights get longer and the days get colder, and the thing that keeps us going is the prospect of Christmas. Naturally, there's no better place to enjoy the run up to the 25th than south east London. One thing that is very nice to do is to simply take in the winter scenery from our many beautiful locations in the south, and sometimes just wandering the streets of Greenwich, window shopping and parading the heath in Blackheath or mooching along a chilly Southbank is the perfect antidote for a Decemer evening. But if you're stuck for where to head to get that true and sparkling festive feeling, then why not take a pick from our list of the best? After all, you are spoiled for choice in our lovely part of the world.

ISTOCK / GETTY IMAGES PLUS

BLACKHEATH VILLAGE DAY

The first Saturday of December sees The Blackheath Society turn on the village's Christmas Lights accompanied by music at The Crown and a series of festive events at the Halls and Age Exchange. The highlight of the day involves the Big Smoke Brass band leading a procession of lanterns from the Blackheath Halls to Montpelier Green for the big switch on led by a secret yet-to-be-confirmed celebrity. Thankfully, you can get your lantern at the lantern making workshop held at The Conservatoire at 1.30pm on Saturday 1 December, with lanterns costing only £10. ▸



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COCKPIT ARTS PHOTOS BY JAMIE TROUNCE

DEPTFORD CHRISTMAS MARKET

Deptford Market Yard is fast becoming a destination for Londoners looking to expand their knowledge of London's varied market scene. This December the market will play host to a festive maker fair where you can chat to designer-makers about their crafts and pick up a present or two. There will, of course, be plenty of street food on hand to keep your blood-sugar levels up. So if the way to your festive heart is through mince pies, stollen and mulled wine then this is the place for you to head.

OPEN STUDIOS

If Christmas is the busiest time for shoppers then it is also the busiest time for south east London's makers. This is why it is also one of the biggest dates in the calendar for many studio spaces that hold open studio events to let the public come and meet their artists and makers and sample their wares. One such studio is Cockpit Studio which is due to hold its open day/evening event in its Deptford studio from 30 November to 2 December with weavers, ceramicists and jewellers among those opening their doors to the public. There'll also be a prize draw with vouchers to spend with the Cockpit makers at stake and food by Hand Made Food Cafe to be eaten. Camberwell Arts will also hold open studio events, one in their East Camberwell studio on 1-2 December and in their West Camberwell studio on 8-9 December. As part of the day, there will also be guided walks taking you around the studio space and introducing you to the makers. It's the perfect way to get inspired for those who are difficult to buy presents for!

ANDREW POLLARD AS LONG JOAN SILVER AND ANTHONY SPARGO AS CAPTAIN HOOK IN PETER PAN GREENWICH THEATRE BY ROBERT DAY

GREENWICH THEATRE

Robinson Crusoe is this year's choice pantomime starring panto royalty Andrew Pollard, who takes to the seas to find lost gold and battles a wicked Pirate Queen on the way. The swashbuckling show runs from 23 November to 13 January and tickets are £29 with concessions £20 and children only £15.

A Christmas Carol was the first public reading Charles Dickens ever gave of his own work, which is why Greenwich Theatre have decided to honour its 175th anniversary this year with actor John O'Connor recreating the author's performance with his own in character reading. For two nights only, on 27 and 28 November, catch Dickens' novel in an authentic reading.

That's not all Greenwich Theatre has to offer this Christmas though, it also has a show for the little ones in the form of *Knitmas: A Winter Yarn* running from 4-30 December. Run by SharkLegs, the show explores what makes Christmas truly special and will involve a workshop before the show with the opportunity for crafting something to be used during the show. ▸

NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM

The National Maritime Museum is taking visitors back in time this Christmas with a lecture in the Queen's House. On 6 December, a local artist will take visitors through a talk on pageantry and wreaths while tours of the house, mulled wine and mince pies will also be on offer. It's a great way to get the children and the whole family together for something that is both educational and festively fun. After all, Christmas is all about being together and feeling the community spirit.

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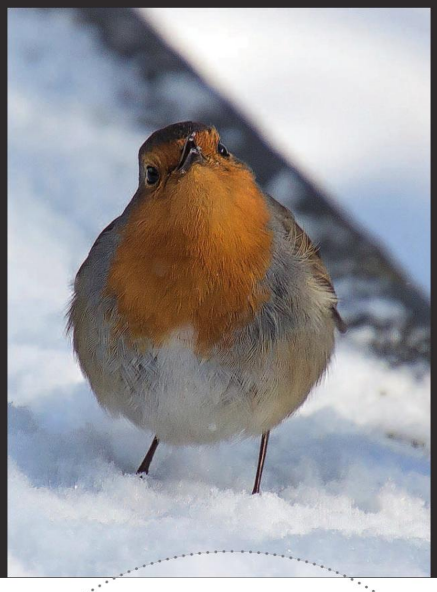
GREENWICH MARKET

South east London isn't short of markets, which means there's many to choose from if you're looking for unique gifts. The market at the centre of the World Heritage Site will hold its annual Christmas Lights switch on and lantern parade on 21 November from 4pm-6pm and will involve a procession starting at 4pm followed by the big countdown. This year it will be hosted by characters from the Greenwich Playhouse Christmas Panto.



LOVE WEST DULWICH CHRISTMAS FAIR

There's nothing more festive than joining a local community run event and this year West Dulwich residents and local businesses will be coming together to celebrate the best of the local area. On Saturday 24 November Croxted, Park Hall and Rosendale Roads will be taken over with a Santa's Grotto, live music, arts and crafts stalls, street food and wine. The free event will also have plenty to keep little ones entertained with story time, face painting, crafts and Santa and Miss Christmas in attendance.

PEXMAS

Pexmas was born in 2012 out of two friends' desire to put on a little festive market in Peckham. And the Pexmas Festive returns to the gorgeous Warwick Gardens in Peckham for its sixth Christmas market on 8-9 December (11am-6pm). Expect mulled wine, street food, good tunes, gifts galore and a Santa's Grotto. There are also a wide range of products on sale at Pexmas, so it is perfect for a spot of Christmas shopping. Find anything from ceramics, prints, decorations and jewellery.

CUTTY SARK OPERA

Merry Opera have a prime position for their big Christmas performance which will include Mozart, Verdi, Puccini, Gilbert and Sullivan, and a reading of Robert Louis Stevenson's poem *Christmas at Sea*. All of this will take place under the gleaming hull of the Cutty Sark. The event takes place on 16 December with mulled cider and a mince pie included in the ticket price.

SOUTHBANK CENTRE WINTER MARKET BY INDIA ROPER-EVANS

SOUTHBANK CHRISTMAS MARKET

One of the most popular Christmas markets in the capital, Southbank market will return this winter from 8 December. There'll be the usual Nordic-inspired wooden cabins with a range of stalls from food to artisan products and entertainment. One of the main events will be the Rekorderling Cider Lodge and the very photo friendly igloos run by Jimmy Garcia. These little pods will line the side of Southbank once again to serve up European fondue, steaks and charcuterie.

pumpkin kisses

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INDULGE

CREDIT: CLAIREMENARY.COM

HIGH PRAISE

Peckham's much-loved neighbourhood restaurant Kudu has just been recognised in a big way by The Michelin Guide's 2019 panel. The South African-inspired spot has received a Bib Gourmand, which is defined by Michelin as an accolade for restaurants that deliver simple yet skilful cooking at great prices. It's a particular achievement for the Queen's Road restaurant as it only opened its doors ten months ago under the careful watch of Amy Corbin and her partner Patrick Williams, and joins just three other new London 2019 winners.

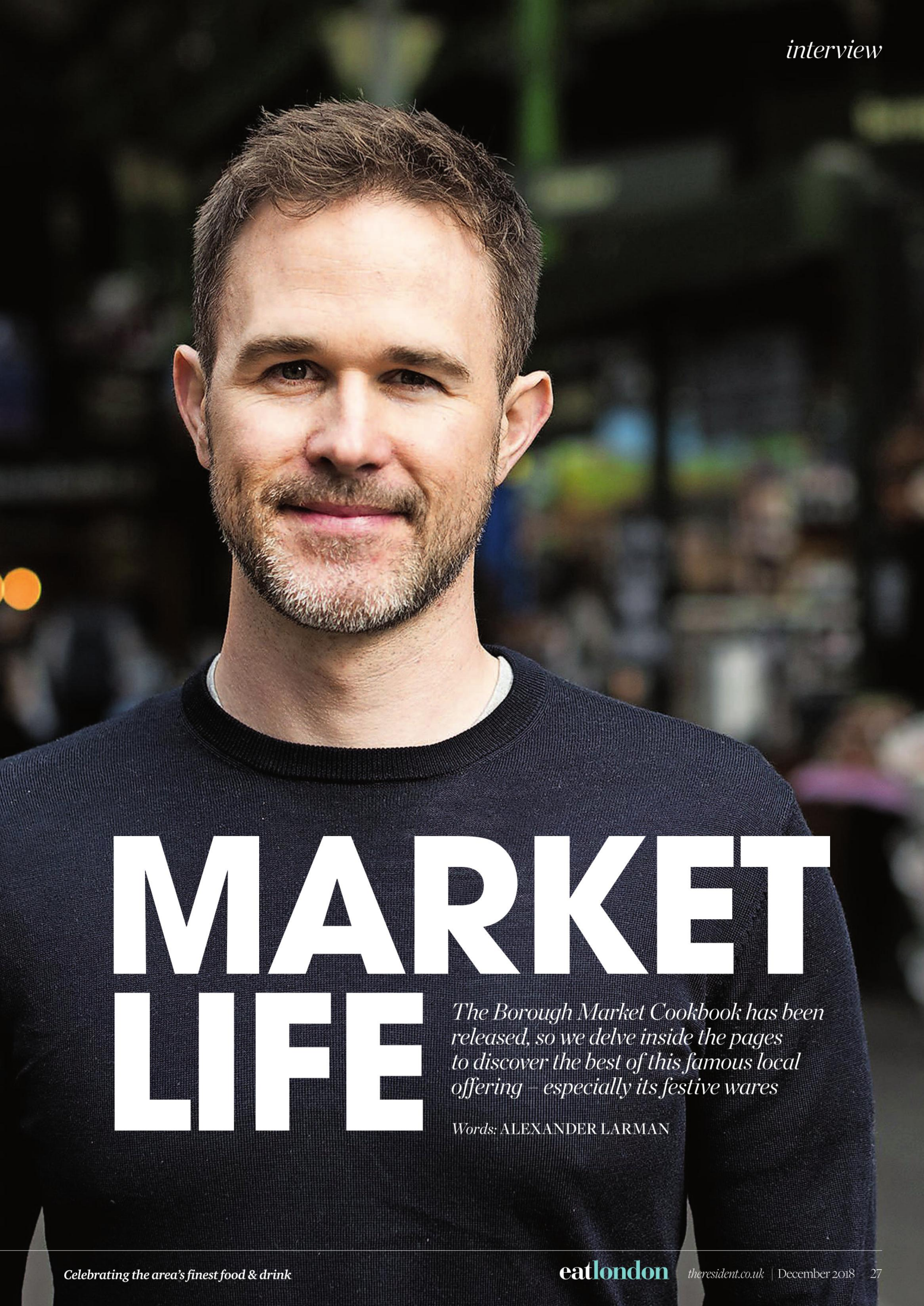
119 Queen's Road, Peckham, SE15 2EZ; kudu-restaurant.com

If you have any interest in food, you have been to Borough Market. If you're one of those people with a serious interest in food, you've avoided it at its ever-busy peak on Fridays and Saturdays and visited at another point when it's open in the week, when it's possible to get past the ever-thronging crowds and actually be able to talk to the stallholders about the brilliant and delicious things that they're selling. It's no exaggeration to call it London's local food market, and for many years it has been clear that the cornucopia of providers and retailers are providing the city – and their corner of south east London – with something more than a little bit special.

However, almost unbelievably, it has taken until now for someone to put together a compilation of the best recipes and most interesting food tips from those involved in it, and that man is Ed Smith, aka @rocketandsquash. He's been working with Borough Market since 2012, writing features on its ingredients, traders, events and the best recipes, as well as dealing with its website and *Market Life* magazine. In other words, he's the best person imaginable to have put together a cookbook about the life of the market, and the resulting book – the appropriately named *Borough Market Cookbook* – is all that any self-respecting foodie could wish for.

As Smith says, it was a natural product of a long working relationship. 'This is Borough Market's project – they asked me to help pitch the book and then, with the publisher, thought I was in a good position to write it. It was a complete joy and privilege to be involved. In many ways it was easy to write a book capturing the essence of the place, people and ingredients (so much subject matter), but it was also a challenge to represent as much as possible with one, unified voice (so much subject matter).'

One of the major challenges was representing the market as a seasonal entity as far as possible; as Smith puts it: 'The market is constantly changing – through the seasons, yes, but on an almost weekly basis too. Many of the different categories of stalls evolve over the course of a year, but it's the greengrocers that set the scene.



MARKET LIFE

The Borough Market Cookbook has been released, so we delve inside the pages to discover the best of this famous local offering – especially its festive wares

Words: ALEXANDER LARMAN

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Of all Borough's traders, it's their produce that varies most often, providing a constantly changing tableau according to the time of the year.' When asked which his favourite season is there, his wry response is 'probably whichever one we're in when being asked!'

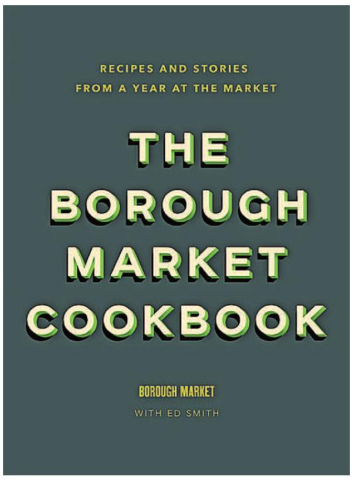
There are, of course, far too many places to eat in Borough. And Smith's favourites? 'The Kappacasein cheese toastie and Brindisa chorizo roll are London street food classics. I've had both of them on loads of occasions, but continue to check in on them from time to time, and there are recipes inspired by them in the cookbook (a quiche using the toastie ingredients, and a sausage tray bake using the ingredients of the chorizo roll plus sherry). I also like Gourmet Goat, La Tua Pasta and Portena's empandas are a great bite. Plus of course Arabica, Padella and Elliot's, on the odd occasion I get the chance to sit down.'

'Above all, it's convivial, atmospheric and bustling'

Borough's success is something that has reflected the change in casual eating in London over the past couple of decades. Smith muses that 'since the Food Lovers Fair at Borough Market in 1998, and Borough's subsequent move to retail trading, there's been a massive growth of produce and farmers' markets in London. Over the last five years, the hot food element at those places, and other specific sites, has become significant; possibly to the detriment of the producers and sellers of raw ingredients. I don't know whether it will, but I hope the balance between ingredient shopping and convenient eating moves back towards the ingredient side of things. To a large extent it's up to us, the consumers, to make the most of these traders, whether at Borough, Herne Hill, Venn Street, Balham or elsewhere, otherwise we'll lose them'.

Christmas is, of course, one of the key seasons at Borough, although Smith demurs at any idea that it's the most important. 'I have to say I think Borough Market is for life, not just for Christmas... that said, it is still a really special place to come in December and through the holiday period. For me, there are a number of reasons: it's open seven days a week at that time, for pretty much the whole of the month; it's a one-stop-shop for non-perishable speciality ingredients, like honeys, olive oils, vinegars and spices, all of which make excellent stocking and sack fillers (as does the cookbook…); and they put on an excellent display of lights, decorations and general Christmas drinks and vibes. Above all, it's convivial, atmospheric and bustling, you can talk to the traders while you shop, and discover new things round every corner, which feels very festive to me.' And who, frankly, can ask for more? r

The Borough Market Cookbook by Ed Smith is published by Hodder & Stoughton, £25



Festive Recipe

BAVETTE STEAKS WITH MUSHROOM KETCHUP
SERVES 2 (WITH KETCHUP LEFTOVER)

FOR THE MUSHROOM KETCHUP
- 20g BUTTER
- 300G PORTOBELLO MUSHROOMS, ROUGHLY CHOPPED
- 1 BANANA SHALLOT, FI NELY SLICED
- 1 SMALL GARLIC CLOVE, CRUSHED
- 2 TABLESPOONS GOLDEN CASTER SUGAR
- ⅕ NUTMEG, FINELY GRATED
- 4 TEASPOONS WHITE WINE VINEGAR
- 2 TABLESPOONS TEPID WATER

FOR THE STEAK
- 500–600g BAVETTE
- 2 TABLESPOONS COOKING OIL
- 25g BUTTER

To make the ketchup, put the butter in heavy based frying pan over a high heat. Once melted and frothing, add the mushrooms and cook them fiercely for 4–5 minutes until golden, much reduced in volume and the mushroom juices are leaching out. Add the shallot and a heavy pinch of flaky sea salt and reduce the temperature a little. Cook for 2–3 minutes, stirring occasionally, then add the garlic, sugar, lots of ground pepper and the grated nutmeg, and cook for a final 2 minutes, by which time the mushrooms should be dark and glossy. Add the vinegar, stir and remove from the heat. Put the contents of the pan in a blender (or a food processor) with 2 tablespoons tepid water and blitz until it forms a very smooth, silky purée that holds its form if spooned onto a plate. Add more water if necessary – conversely, don't panic if it's too loose, just heat it gently to evaporate the liquid until it's as thick as desired. Refrigerate until required.

Find a heavy-based frying pan which fits the steak snugly. Turn on the extractor fan. Put the pan over a high heat, add the oil and heat until near smoking point.

Season both sides of the bavette heavily with flaky sea salt and black pepper, then place it in the pan. Cook for 2 minutes without disturbance, then flip it over and cook for 2 minutes more. Add the butter and once it's frothing and browning, spoon it repeatedly over the meat as it cooks. Cook both sides for a further 1–3 minutes (the precise time will depend on the thickness of the steak and starting temperature of the meat). The bavette should plump up and its grain become obvious (most likely running lengthways).

When it's ready it should have a similar spring to the squidgy part below your thumb, when you touch the thumb to middle finger. Alternatively, it's ready when the core reaches 50–52C on a probe thermometer. Transfer to a warm plate to rest for 5 minutes, then slice it across the grain, seasoning each piece with more salt.

Recipe taken from The Borough Market Cookbook by Ed Smith

THE BOROUGH MARKET COOKBOOK BY ED SMITH; HODDER & STOUGHTON PUBLISHERS 2018; PHOTOGRAPHY BY ISSY CROKER, HODDER & STOUGHTON 2018

GUY AWFORD

An indulgent treat perfect for winter evenings

A handmade gift perfectly embodies the Christmas spirit. From spiced chutneys to chocolate truffles, the possibilities are endless. If you're new to the world of edible gifts, may I suggest testing the waters with a tray of millionaire's shortbread; they're easy to master but hard to resist.

The key to a perfect millionaire's shortbread lies in the balance between the crunchy shortbread, the gooey caramel, and bitter dark chocolate. The shortbread should be as short as possible. I use slightly less flour than the standard 1:2:3 ratio of sugar to butter to flour. I also use some cornflour to reduce the gluten content.

The caramel should be cooked for just long enough to ensure it sets, but not so long that it turns grainy. Let the caramel cool and set before smoothing over the dark chocolate. It shouldn't be fridge cold though, or the dark chocolate will solidify before you have a chance to feather in the white chocolate.

The texture of the chocolate layer is crucial. It needs to have a snap to it, so tempering the chocolate first is a very good idea. To temper the chocolate, melt 170g of good quality dark chocolate in a heatproof bowl suspended over a pan of simmering water. Remove the bowl and add 80g of chopped chocolate, stirring until the temperature reaches 31C. Now pour over the caramel and spread it evenly.

For a final flourish, put melted white chocolate into a piping bag and pipe straight lines across the width of the dark chocolate. Turn the tray 90° and drag a skewer through it to create a feathered design. r

handmadefood.com / theguildfordarms.co.uk

Top Tip:
To stop the chocolate surface cracking as you portion place a long knife in a jug of just boiled water. Dry and then use the heat of the blade to cut through the chocolate. Re-heat as needed.

Millionaire's Shortbread

MAKES 20
PREPARATION TIME: 30 minutes
COOKING TIME: 30 minutes

INGREDIENTS
- 70g caster sugar
- 140g butter
- Drop vanilla essence
- 160g plain flour
- 40g cornflour
- 250g butter
- 250g soft brown sugar
- 150g golden syrup
- 400g condensed milk
- 250g chopped dark chocolate
- 50g melted white chocolate

METHOD

1 Pre-heat oven to 180C. Cream the sugar, vanilla & butter. Sift in the flours and mix together. Pat into the base of a lined 20 x 30cm baking tray. Bake for 25 minutes. Allow to cool.

2 Melt the butter with the brown sugar & syrup and bring to the boil. Simmer for about 5 minutes. Add the condensed milk & simmer for 2 minutes. Cover the shortbread evenly. Allow to cool.

3 Melt & temper the dark chocolate as above. Cover the caramel & feather in the white chocolate.

4 Chill in the refrigerator to set before cutting into neat squares.

EAT: TUPI

Already a massive hit in Peckham, when Tupi London announced its second opening in Elephant and Castle, it's fair to say there were more than a few excited diners. Opened at the end of September, the Castle Square spot is all about fusing Brazilian classics with modern European flare and the result is, quite simply, delicious.

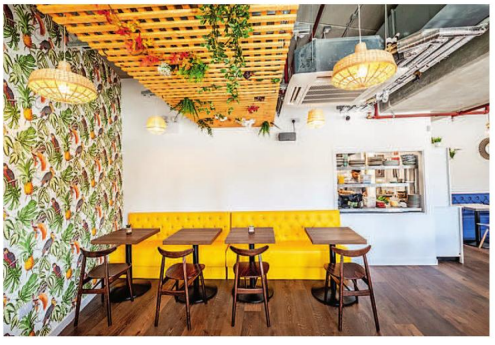
We started well with a generous serving of olives and sourdough, as well as the best chorizo I've tasted (which may well have been because it was soaked in red wine). From that boozy start, I went for a sweet potato fishcake complete with poached egg, hollandaise and green vegetables. I'll admit it's not a mix that I thought would work, but the dish was the ultimate comfort food and was very filling – not something you can guarantee when eating out. There were no complaints from the other side of the table as my guest enjoyed their 'It's a Party' burger, which was a literal feast of beef, bacon, cheese, avocado and egg.

Although we probably didn't need to, we ended with some indulgent blueberry pancakes soaked in honey and left feeling extremely satisfied, and about a stone heavier. Forgo the wine and treat yourself to some cocktails to accompany dinner – my favourite was the Castle Romance, a lethal mixture of tequila and wine.

It's a homely set up in the restaurant with its romantic candlelit tables. But I couldn't help but feel it wasn't quite at its peak yet. It's not yet bustling for a Friday night and while there were plenty of groups sitting around enjoying cocktails, the empty tables and slightly too loud music didn't feel quite suited to the atmosphere of the spot. But really, it is surely only a matter of time before Tupi reaches the level of its Peckham sister. Delicious food, great drinks and friendly service mean it is the perfect spot for a relaxed bite this December.

2 Castle Square, Elephant Road, SE17 1EN; tupilondon.com

RESIDENT RATING
★★★★



WORDS: FAY WATSON; IMAGES OF TUPI BY RENJOE FILM, RENJOE.COM; EAT FAN BY THE VOW STUDIO; FATTY'S GIN BY CRAIG MORRAN, DARRYLL JONES, GRUMPY COCK STUDIOS

THE QUICK LIST

Don't miss out on some of the hot news and openings this month

Having your cake

Blackheath's own Filitsa Gray has been busy making vegan cakes for the likes of Sara Pascoe and Katherine Ryan, as well as showing off her designs on Channel 4's *Bake-Off* show *An Extra Slice* over the past few months. This month she's planning to be at the newly launched Woolwich Market and you'll catch her at Catford Market in the new year.
@MissFlitsBakesVegan

Bar work

Tacos, tequila and mezcal. What more could you want from Brixton's latest opening La Barra? The spot has just been opened on Market Row by Joshua Whiting, who is the man behind Killa Dilla and Tacos Del Ray. Diners can expect slow cooked meat tacos, as well as a whole collection of delicious margaritas.
14E Market Row, Brixton, SW9 8LD; @labarralondon

Biggest fan

Based on the premise of offering authentic Asian food with a homemade twist, Eat Fan has just opened as Greenwich Peninsula's latest restaurant. Founded by Cindy and Fan, the new spot uses traditional Asian ingredients as well as modern cooking techniques to create their selection of tasty dishes as well as offering great coffee for your caffeine fix.
44 Chandlers Avenue, SE10 0GE; eatfan.co.uk

Local launch

Dulwich local Philippa Gee's gin business has won a gold medal in the Organic category of the Gin Masters 2018. Inspired by her local surroundings, Fatty's Organic Gin features dill as its key ingredient thanks to the origin of Dulwich as the meadow where dill grows. With a fresh and crisp taste, the organic gin is a hit.
fattysorganicspirits.com

Festive meats

South London favourites Cannon & Cannon have launched a host of British charcuterie tins to pre-order in time for Christmas parties and gifts. Showcasing artisan meat products, the range includes the brand new Wine and Meat Pairing and Protein Power tins. You'll recognise the iconic team from their stalls at Borough Market and Herne Hill Market every week.
cannonandcannon.com

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DESIGN

CREDIT: BLASTA HENRIETTA AT SAMPLE: CHRISTMAS ON GREENWICH PENINSULA, PHOTO BY YESHEN VENEMA

DESIGNER CHRISTMAS

This month the SAMPLE pop-up market is returning to Greenwich Peninsula with a special extended edition for Christmas. Set to showcase the best crafty and designer homeware and design, it will be taking over the south east London spot on the weekend of 1-2 December. There will be makers and stall holders including Edy & Bridge, Blasta Henrietta, Kimba, Pottern and Woben Form to help you celebrate independent brands in your Christmas shopping this year, and the local fair has also partnered with designer Tatty Devine to create an iconic Rainbow Halo installation of an archway sprinkled with jewelled stars to celebrate the festive season.

Central Park, Greenwich Peninsula, SE10 0PL; greenwichpeninsula.co.uk

CLIMBING UP THE LEVELS

Following their creation of the wayfinding system at Peckham Levels, Alexander Owen Architecture are reaching new heights

Words: ELLIE FELLS

Richard Alexander Bridges, left, and James Owen Webster, right

Richard Alexander Bridges and James Owen Webster go back a long way. 'We actually went to school together,' Webster tells me, and it quickly becomes apparent that they are not just colleagues, but good friends too. They went to art school before reuniting again to work at Norman Foster's company. 'We then worked individually,' Bridges explains. 'But we eventually decided to set up AO together.' That was back in 2013, and Alexander Owen Architecture is now going from strength to strength.

They have recently made the move to Peckham Levels, the new development which aimed to transform the empty floors of a multi-storey car park into a community centre and offices for growing businesses. 'We were initially based in East Dulwich, but had to move out because our landlord hadn't paid his rent,' Webster explains. Fortunately, this coincided with the application process opening up for a workspace in the Levels. To secure a spot, companies had to follow a lengthy process that involved submitting a detailed business plan and undergoing a panel interview. Being from Peckham themselves, however, was a 'massive ticking box' for the duo, since the project was particularly looking to support local entrepreneurs: 75% of people now working in the building are from the area. Webster and Bridges were successful, and moved in to the Levels in February.

A big step up for AO Architecture was when they were asked to transform the old staircase of the Levels into a wayfinding system, which would help in navigating the disorientating building. The staircase was 'filthy', urgently in need of restoration if the Levels were to become a safe space for the community. 'We based our design off the existing structure, but we cleaned it right down and then analysed how we would use it,' Bridges says. It has been transformed beyond recognition: the staircase is now a vibrant system that acts as a map of the building. 'A colour is assigned to

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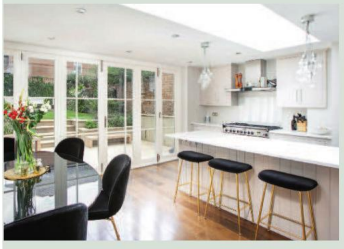

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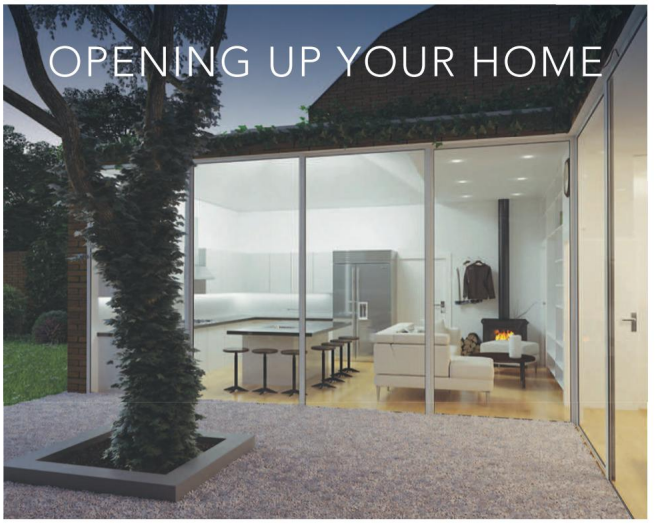

The kitchen today has become the heart of the home; and as such offers households the chance to gather in a more relaxed way, than other rooms in the house. Gone are the formalities of the parlour and increasingly the formal dinner party. Hosts more often have friends and family gathered where the chef is part of the get together- the act of cooking and serving is near and the children and guests engaged with. No longer does the chef have to rush into the dining room or carry the tea and cakes into the drawing room. Likewise the summer lunch outside is more easily served and barbecued when the kitchen opens to the terrace and lets the sun into the middle of the house. Opening up your home will open up your life.

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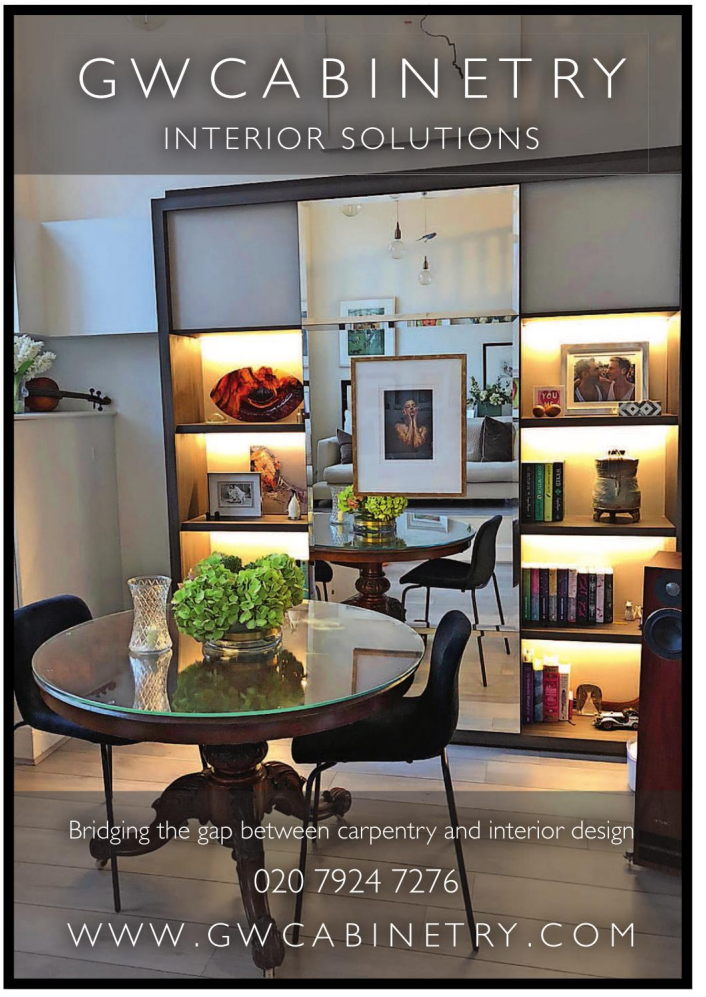


The Peckham Levels wayfinding system

'We're interested in creating brand-led environments'

each of the seven floors,' Webster explains, 'and the colours, narratively speaking, represent the artists working within the building.' The handrails are also split into two different colours, with the top colour pointing you to the level above and the bottom to the level below. 'We also teamed those main colours with light filters which really enhances it, especially at night-time,' Bridges adds. This is particularly important because the staircase has a 24-hour job, leading to offices during the day but to nightclubs on level six after dark.

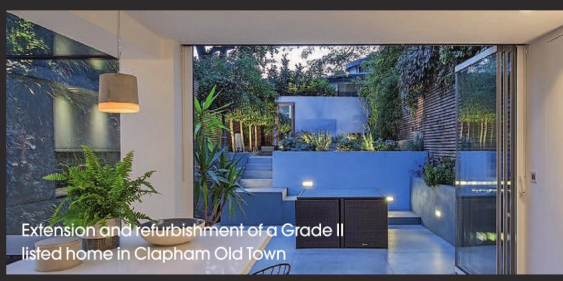
As well as serving the essential function of helping people to find their way around the complicated layout of the Levels, the staircase has attracted a huge amount of attention on social media thanks to its vibrant colours and innovative design. Whether intentional or not, it has achieved the substantial feat of becoming one of London's most 'Instagrammed' spots. 'The mirrors in there for health and safety reasons have doubled up as mirrors where you can take pictures of yourself. It's quite funny really,' laughs Webster. 'We've won a Pinterest award for it! Farrow and Ball featured it in their Chromologist blog too.'

With their move to Peckham Levels, it's been a big year for Webster and Bridges, but they clearly have a lot more up their sleeve. 'We've got some exciting residential projects across the whole of London, and some are due to be finished in the next six months,' Webster says. They have worked with an impressive range of commercial clients to date too, such as Mindshare, Represent Radio, Condé Nast and Hearst Media. The Levels is serving as the perfect base for them to branch out further, acting as a 'melting pot' of creativity in its bringing together of like-minded artists. 'We're really interested in creating brand-led environments, so we're currently developing this arm of the company,' Webster comments, 'and being based here we can work with other members like the digital artists and technologists.' So working with other businesses within Peckham Levels is on the horizon? 'Yeah for sure, we've been speaking to a few other people about collaborating and I think everyone feels like that, it's a great part of this place.'

At the very heart of Peckham Levels is the idea that the development works in conjunction with people in the local area, too. 'Part of being based here is that you have to give back to the local community,' Bridges explains. 'We're going to teach school children who are interested in art and design. They're going to come into our office and we will show them what we do and how they can get in to it. Hopefully it will be quite inspirational for them.'

Just listening to the exciting ideas and enthusiasm of Webster and Bridges, it is easy to see why they were chosen for a prestigious spot in the development, and it seems we are only just tapping into the surface of what the duo has to offer. Watch this space, because AO Architecture look set to be taking big steps up the levels. ■

aoarchitecture.co.uk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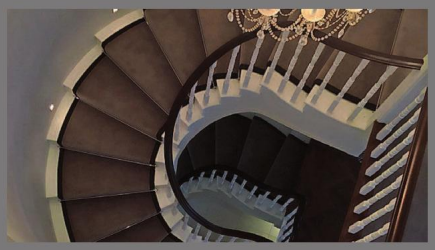

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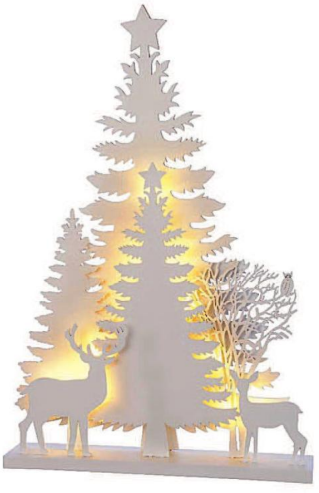
SPREAD THE JOY

Your Christmas table should set the scene for an epicurean experience you will remember the whole year through

Words: KATE HOUGHTON

Set of four Champagne flutes, £32.50, notjustjugs.com



ABOVE: Luxury chocolates, £22, chococo.co.uk

LEFT: Stag Forest LED scene table centre, £38, marquisanddawe.co.uk

FEAST FOR THE SENSES

A little bit of fun goes a long way to making family memories to treasure

Penguin afternoon tea collection, from £15.50, saramiller.london

Festive Geese footed cake plate, £49.95, annabeljames.co.uk

ABOVE: Holly & Berry napkins, £15, sophieallport.com

BELOW: Nordic Light four-arm candelabra, £69.50, abodeliving.co.uk

Embroidered red Christmas tablecloth, £50, raggedrose.com

Acacia wood & bark placemat, £18, & burnished copper votives (3), £18, johnlewis.com

Fluted large decanter, £255, and Jancis Robinson collection wine glass, £35, richardbrendon.com

Hessian snowflake table runner, £8.95, luckandluck.co.uk

TRADITIONALLY BEAUTIFUL

Classic styling will bring the joy of the season to all who attend your Christmas dining table

Partridge luxury crackers (6), £20, saramiller.london

Gold cone & feather garland, £42, tch.net

Silverton 16 piece cutlery set, £80, made.com

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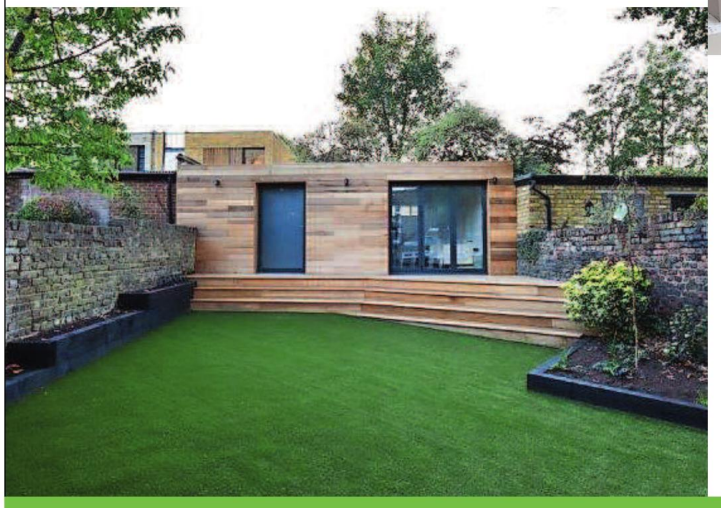

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Rose gold sequin table runner, £16.99, gingerray.co.uk

Mistletoe garland, £14.99, lights4fun.co.uk

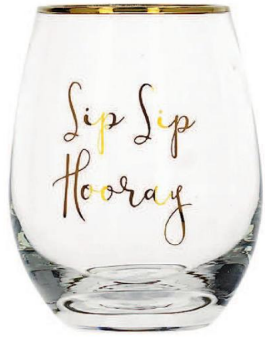
Juniper Berry & Cedar and Cinnamon & Orange glitter candles, £14.99 each, dobbies.com

Lulu champagne flutes (4), £41.95, annabeljames.co.uk

PINK FIZZ

Embracing the festive shade is sure to put a smile on your face

Laura Ashley Christmas Blush collection, from £7, lauraashley.com



ABOVE: Ava & I stemless wine glass, £9.99, creative-tops.com

BELOW: Walker Christmas cracker set (6), £35, debenhams.com

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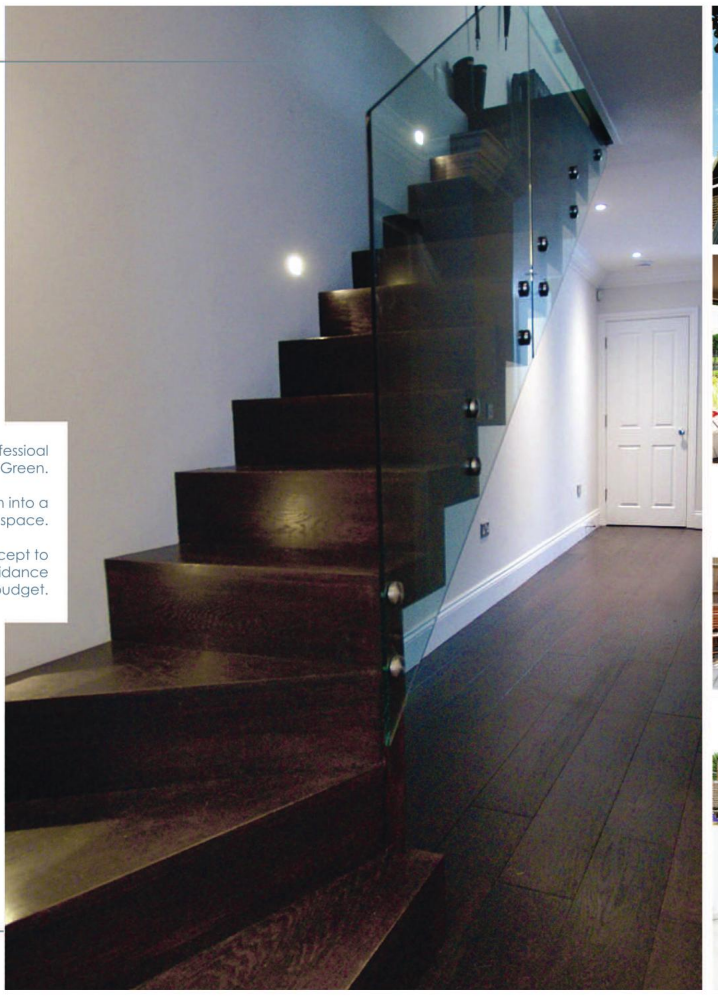

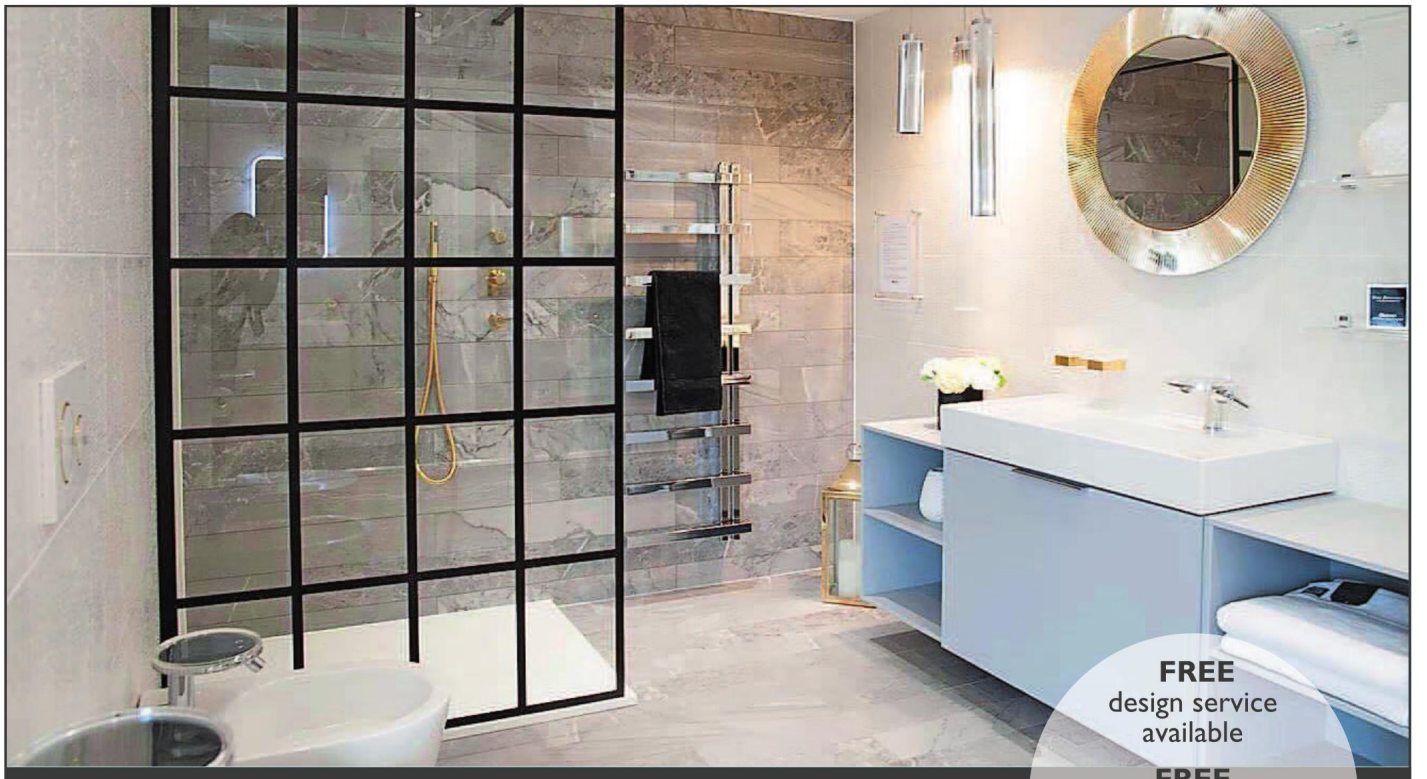

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Emma Britton floral etched glass collection, from £6, emmabritton.net

Above: Four LSA Lulu cocktail glasses, £36, black-by-design.co.uk

Left: Retro glass cocktail shaker, £29, cultfurniture.com

Six Library wine glasses, £105, hurnandhurn.com

THREE CHEERS

Raising a glass is all the more pleasurable when it's as festive as the contents

From left: Etched wine glass, £10, lauraashley.com
Royal Christmas wine glass, £15, amara.com
Star by Julien Macdonald wine glass, £8, debenhams.co.uk

Four berry tinted wine glasses, £39.95 & decanter, £32.50, audenza.com

Two Cognac rocking glasses, £29, hurnandhurn.com

'TIS THE SEASON...

... to be jolly, so go all out with a Christmas decorating scheme that really celebrates the festive season

Story: KARA O'REILLY

A by Amara Deco Natural small pinecone wreath, £25, amara.com

Life of a Snowman matryoshka, £250, theconranshop.co.uk

Origami tree decoration, £2.99, dobbies.com

FOREST GREEN

The new 'it' interiors colour and very flexible it is too. Make it modern by mixing with black, white and metallic accents; or go for a more natural, Nordic-influenced sensibility and add textural elements such as fir cones, forest twigs and faux fur.

Luxury faux fur stocking in Spruce by Helen Moore, from £40, black-by-design.co.uk

Leaf-filled shatterproof bauble, £10.50 for 6, coxandcox.co.uk

Paper concertina baubles, £22 per set of 4, toa.st

Pinecone Christmas crackers, £35 for 6, nancyandbetty.com

24-pocket re-usable Advent calendar, £55, designletters.dk

Snowy cone ball, £3.60, joannawood.co.uk

All items by George Home, from a selection, asda.com

Rainbow bauble wreath, £25; baubles, from £2 each; Gift wrap, tags and ribbon, from £2, all John Lewis & Partners (johnlewis.com)

Palla di Fidanzamento hand-decorated porcelain ornament, £32, alessi.com

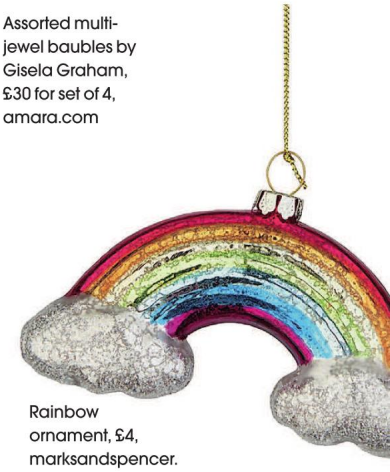
Pompom wreath, £30, debenhams.com

Assorted multi-jewel baubles by Gisela Graham, £30 for set of 4, amara.com

DISCO RAINBOW

This is the look for those who love an OTT approach to Christmas decorating. It's also a cool way of coordinating all those miscellaneous decos accumulated over the years: simply arrange into colour families, then decorate in swathes. Failing that, go all out and invest in a medley of rainbow-inspired ornaments for a joyous explosion of colour.

Embellished velvet stocking by Jan Constantine, £65, selfridges.com



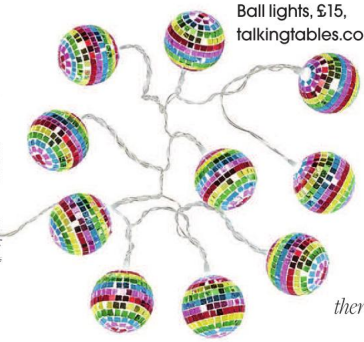
Rainbow ornament, £4, marksandspencer.com

Pack of multi-colour baubles, £25 for 32, John Lewis & Partners (johnlewis.com)

Rainbow bottlebrush tree, £7.50, paperchase.co.uk

Paper spike decorations, £10 each, rajtentclub.com

Felt garland, £18.50, Victoria & Albert Museum (vam.ac.uk/shop)



Boho Disco Ball lights, £15, talkingtables.co.uk

Rainbow mini crackers, £6 for 8, habitat.co.uk

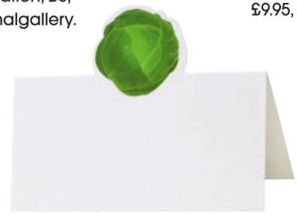
Burger decoration, £5, debenhams.com

Soy sauce decoration, £6, paperchase.co.uk

Pea pod decoration, £3.75, The Contemporary Home (tch.net)

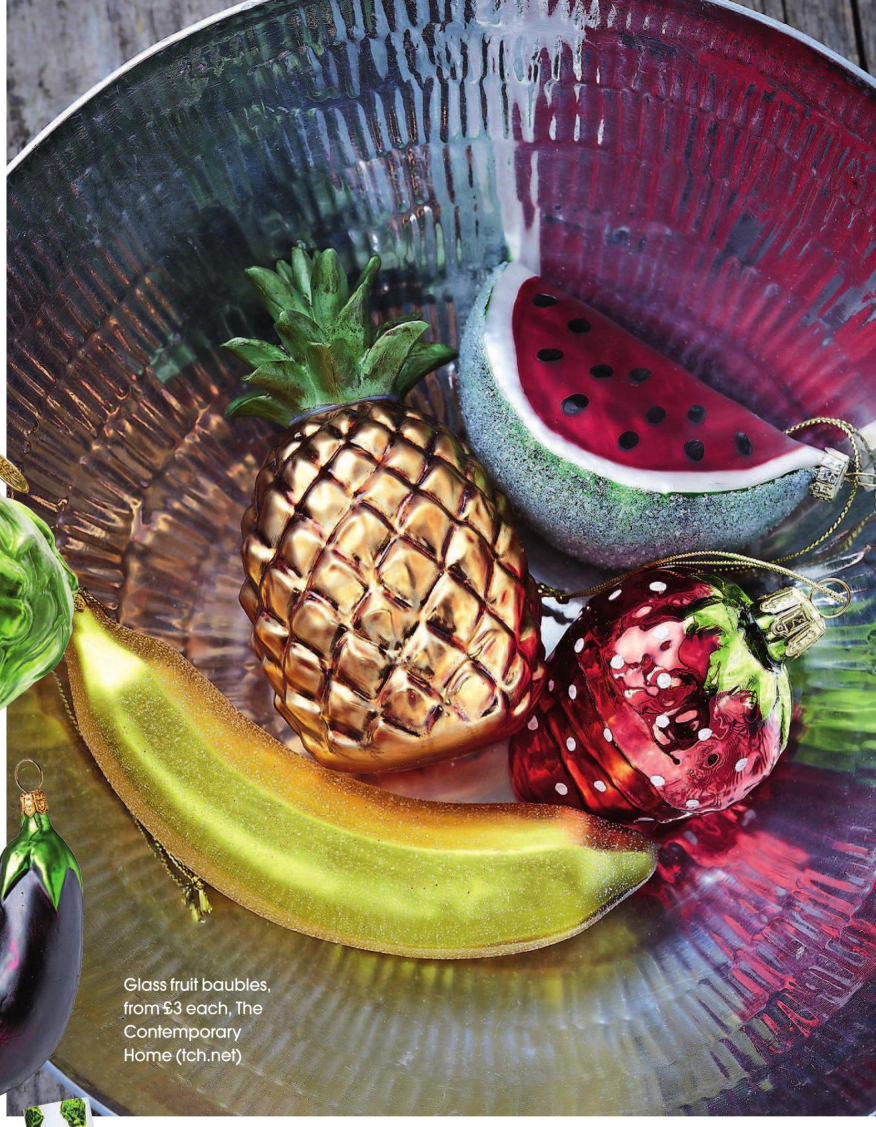
Glass Brussel sprout, £9.95, aerloom.london

Bunch of asparagus decoration, £8, nationalgallery.co.uk



Sprout place cards, £3.50 for 12, talkingtables.co.uk

Aubergine tree decoration, £8, theconranshop.co.uk



Glass fruit baubles, from £3 each, The Contemporary Home (tch.net)

Glass chilli decoration, £6, giselagraham.co.uk

Carrot decoration, £16, petershamnurseries.com

Little Treats ornament set by Bombki, £65, fortnumandmason.com

Brussel sprout crackers, £36 for 6, Victoria & Albert Museum (vam.ac.uk/shop)

FABULOUS FOODSTUFFS

From all conceivable types of fruit and veg to junk food and sweet treats, every Christmas collection has some foodie element to it. It's this year's quirkier ornaments theme.

MINI TREND

Fashion makes a move on Christmas with big cat themes – *so* this season, darling….

Matt gold leopard-print bauble, £5, Natural History Museum (nhmshop.co.uk)

Leopard print celebration crackers, £50 for 6, selfridges.com

Panther tree decoration, £12, amara.com

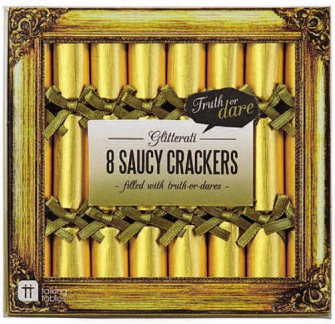
Waxed paper baubles with gold decoration and pearls, £6.25 each, rajtentclub.com

Antique baubles, from £6 each, heals.com

World map globe ornament, £12, fortnumandmason.com

Gold pomegranate decoration, £4.80, joannawood.co.uk

Glass onion sequin and pearls bauble, £3, homebase.co.uk



Glitterati saucer crackers, £7 for 8, talkingtables.co.uk

Gold flower garlands, £40 for set of 2, sophieconran.com

GO FOR GOLD

To give a classic look an update, choose a trad Christmas colour – whether that's gold, silver, white or red – and aim for a monochromatic effect, using only decorations in that single hue. It's both dramatic and rather glam…

Metallic candleholder by Madam Stoltz, £9, smallable.com

Golden decorations, from £15 for 2, all sophieconran.com

Gold Merry Christmas bunting, £4.99, gingerray.co.uk

Gold glitter paper tree decorations, £8.95 for set of 2, rockettstgeorge.co.uk

Glass glitter bauble with sequins, £4.20, giselagraham.co.uk

Tangle star tree topper by Stelton, £74.95, black-by-design.co.uk

Dove ornament by Alexander Girard, £16, vitra.com

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GIFT GUIDE

GOLD & GREY ORGANZA MERRY CHRISTMAS RIBBON BY COX & COX

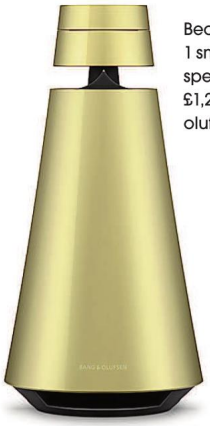
TIME FOR GIVING

It's that time of year again when all you can think about is how many presents you still need to buy for people before the run up to the big day. It can be very time consuming and stressful at times, so we've pulled together ideas from some of our favourite people this year to help out with a little gifting inspiration. From interiors to design, to children to gourmet and gadgets, we've got something for someone in the next few pages. Perhaps you want to make your little one's bedroom into a playground with the addition of a teepee, or you think one of your friends may fancy a new print for their kitchen wall – well, turn over the page and see what you think...

THE DESIGN GUIDE

Gorgeous gift ideas for all manner of interiors addicts

Story: KARA O'REILLY



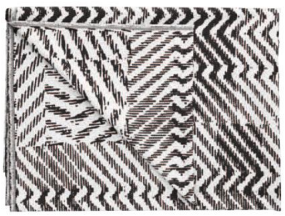
Beo Sound 1 smart speaker, £1,250, bang-olufsen.com

Vintage brass magazine rack by Maison Bagues, £475, artissanalondon.com

Morning coffee & tea alarm clock, £345, barisieur.com

Ceramic vessel, from £1,200 to commission, oliviawalker.co.uk

Brass mini spoons, £20 per set of six, alicebosc.com



Stamp wool and cotton throw, £260, beatricelarkin.com

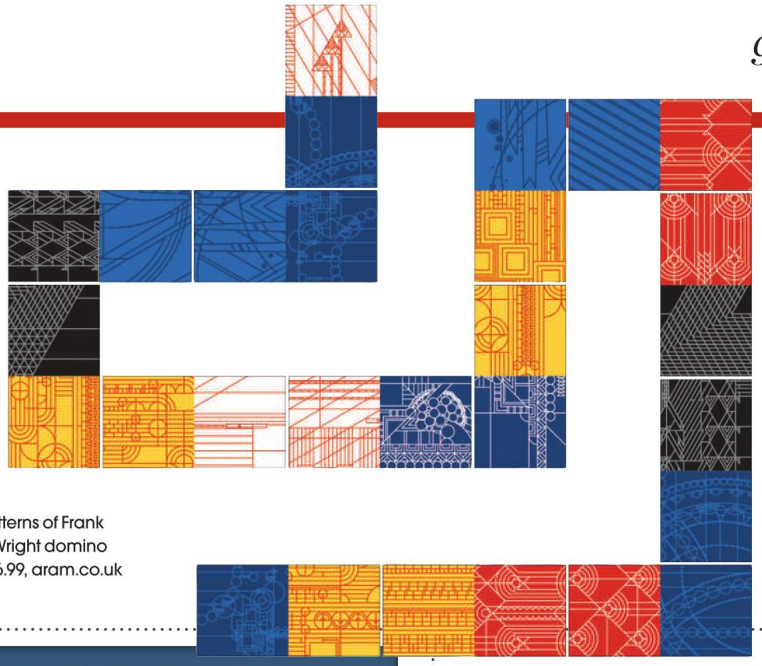
Solid brass oil burner, £120, aesop.com

Cashmere travel blanket set, £625, bamford.com

Steak serving set, £26, debenhams.com

Modernist fruit bowl in cobalt, £29.50, abodeliving.co.uk

Golden Eye mirror, £198, audenza.com



The Patterns of Frank Lloyd Wright domino set, £26.99, aram.co.uk

Bambino chair upholstered in fabric by Eleanor Pritchard, £2,349, heals.com

Dotty limited-edition archive print, from £750 unframed, richardallanlondon.co.uk

Cool ice bucket, £68, designletters.dk

Woven stool, from £245 to order, jorobyn elbourne.com

Linen bedding, £155 for a double set, chalkpinklinencompany.co.uk

Crocodile box with playing cards, £190, l-objet.com

Leopard print faux fur throw, £99, thefrenchbedroomcompany.co.uk

Barbara Hepworth cushion, £70, hepworthwakefield.org/shop or shop.kettlesyard.co.uk

THE STYLE GUIDE

The most fashionable gifts for the man or woman in your life

Rotary rose gold Greenwich G2 watch, £289, rotarywatches.com

Sara Miller London leaves bangle, £50, saramiller.london

Harry's winter Winston shaving kit, £38, harrys.com

Amethyst maxi claw ring, £295, danielladraper.com

Hunter original tall silver boots, £95, hunter.co.uk

Exotic silk dressing gown, £1,250, newandlingwood.com

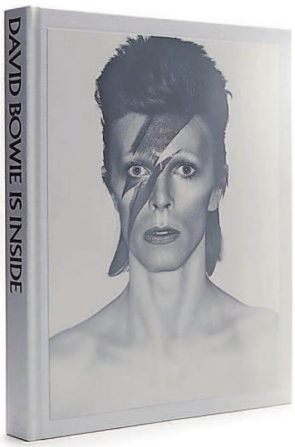
Trickers Lily beechnut jodhpur boot, £395, trickers.com

Paul Smith floral socks, £18, libertylondon.com

Byredo Heliotropia eau de parfum, £160, liberty london.com

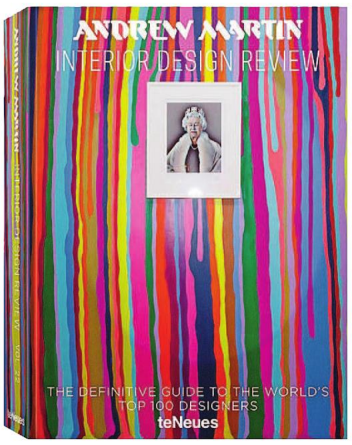
THE CULTURE GUIDE

Love the arts? Here's a selection of perfect gifts picked just for you



David Bowie V&A Museum book, £200, vanda.org.uk

Chisel & Mouse London blue river cityscape, £255, chiselandmouse.co.uk



Andrew Martin Interior Design Review Vol. 22, £45, andrewmartin.co.uk

BFI Champion giftpack 2018, £260, shop.bfi.org.uk

Grayson Perry snowglobe, £50, shop.tate.org.uk

Monet pond silk scarf, £50, nationalgallery.co.uk

Fly in a WWII Spitfire Virgin Experience, £2,750, virginexperiencedays.co.uk

Lhouette art chess set, £7,000, tburnsarts.com

Black Diamond elite audio turntable, £2,750, eliteaudiouk.com

THE GOURMET GUIDE

Luxury foodie ideas to make your dining table sparkle

Jonathan Adler Vodka Rocket Decanter, £148, jonathanadler.co.uk

Fortnum's vegan wine hamper, £295, fortnumandmason.com

108 Isabella gin, £38, 108brasserie.com

Jonathan Adler Les Girls cocktail napkins, £48, jonathanadler.co.uk

Mater double bottle, £106.50, connox.co.uk

Sara Miller London penguin tea spoons, £21, saramiller.london

Eat Sushi art print, £20, rebsville.com

Stacey Forsey book, £20, staceyforsey.co.uk

Collar espresso maker, £70, habitat.co.uk

THE GADGET GUIDE

Feast your eyes on this festive selection for the tech lovers amongst us

Canon PowerShot SX70 HS, £519.99, canon.co.uk

Bowers & Wilkins PX noise-cancelling headphone, £329.99, bowers-wilkins.co.uk

Roccbox portable pizza oven, £499, gozney.com

Lumie Lamp Body Clock Glow 150, £90, lumie.com

Selfridges GoPro Hero7 Black Action Cam, £379, selfridges.com

Bose noise masking sleepbuds, £229.95, johnlewis.com

Panasonic 3-in-1 Micro-Current Facial Enhance EH-XT20, £199 .99, harrods.com

Smeg x Dolce&Gabbana 'Sicily is my Love' SMF01 stand mixer, from £599, smeguk.com

Selfridges Fitbit Versa Smartwatch in Black Aluminium, £199, selfridges.com

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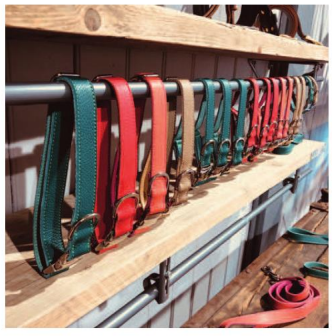

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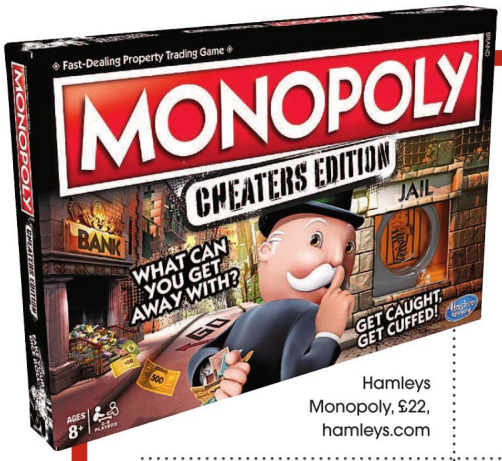
THE KIDS GUIDE

Watch their faces light up with our choice of the best gifts for little ones



Hamleys Monopoly, £22, hamleys.com

My 1st Years personalised turquoise ride, £120, myfirstyears.com

Not on the High Street teepee, £99, notonthehighstreet.co.uk

Scoop subscription, scoopthemag.co.uk

Cloud big mobile, £42, libertylondon.com

Selfridges Hansa Giraffe soft animal figure 133cm, £500, selfridges.com

Selfridges Smartech Loog wood three cord mini guitar, £99, selfridges.com

140th Anniversary Baby Balmoral, £750, silvercrossbaby.com

Olli Ella Seeya wheeled kids suitcase rust, £59, olliella.com

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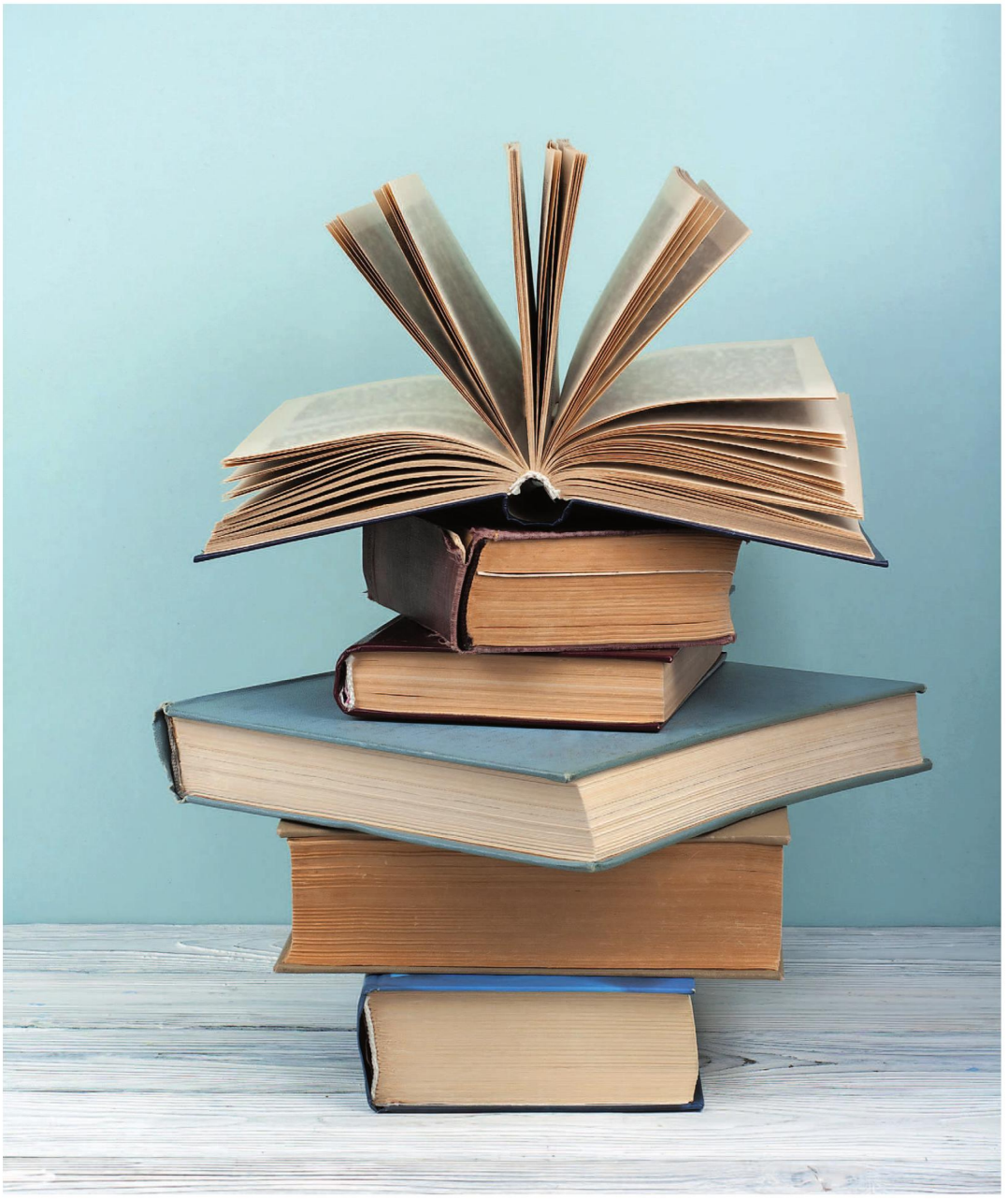

ISTOCK / GETTY IMAGES PLUS

PRESERVING HISTORY

The Feminist Library is crowdfunding to move to a new permanent Peckham location in spring 2019 from their current temporary location in Southbank. They're well on their way to reaching their target of £30,000 to cover the costs of relocating to the new space at the Sojourner Truth Community Centre on Sumner Road, but are asking people to give whatever they can to help. And as an incentive to sponsor the move, the team are selling tote bags by artist Lucie Russell, framed prints from Astra Blaug as well as the opportunity to have your name engraved on the shelf of the new spot. Donations are open until 10 December on Crowdfunder.

crowdfunder.co.uk/help-the-feminist-library-build-its-new-home

ARTIST'S IMPRESSION

The creative behind this month's cover illustration, Rebecca Lea Williams may just have that unique Christmas gift idea you have been searching for

Words: MARK KEBBLE

Rebecca Lea Williams has art coursing through her veins. Look at her family tree and you will see a long line of makers and artists, house builders and stonemasons, set designers and ceramicists. Her parents met at art school and her great uncle painted Bovril adverts on the London Underground. Little surprise, then, that she became an artist and illustrator – and the Herne Hill local has launched Rebsville, a new online shop for hand-made and bespoke art prints and stationery. Here she talks about the inspiration for the launch, juggling work and motherhood, and why south east London is the perfect place to get creative…

What kind of diverse projects have you undertaken in the past?

I have been privileged to work on so many amazing projects, it is hard to choose which ones to tell you about! I illustrated a high street and created fashion illustrations for a TimeInc/Clarks shoes project called 'Style on the Square', which was the first time I designed solely for an interactive digital project. I've drawn 30 mini maps for a travel book, created logos for start-ups and rebrands for big companies. This year Molton Brown commissioned me to work on their ongoing 'Heritage' project. I have illustrated the evolution of their bottle shapes and a new drawing of their original store shopfront on South Molton Street.

How long has Rebsville been in the making?

Well… I have always been asked if I sold prints, but it has always been hard to find the time to create my own artwork to sell in between commercial commissions. Starting my own brand has always been in the back of my mind, but in the summer of 2016 a particular commission sparked it off. I was getting back to work after having had my son and was asked to be one of 30 contributing illustrators to the book of illustrated maps 'The Londonist Mapped'. The Waterways and Wildlife of London

map was born and I was able to make my own prints of the design to sell. It was going to be the first of my own prints. I booked a stall at the Herne Hill Christmas Market and aimed at that for the launch of my new shop Rebsville; selling illustrated prints and products by me for the first time. It was a big success and I made sales! I couldn't quite believe it and was bolstered to carry on.

Are the collections – Eat, London, Maps, Kids – your passions in a nutshell?

Yes! Primarily I am passionate about learning and self development so I want my art to reflect this as well as look good on your walls. Maps are totally absorbing to me. I love the challenge of making something beautiful as well as informative. The Waterways and Wildlife of London Map was the first Rebsville print, I have added local maps of Dulwich and Herne Hill and there are many more in the making. As a qualified primary school teacher, my art prints for children are also a tool for learning. 'The Alphabet Comes to Tea' poster is bright and fun, but also a phonics tool to help parents support their child's learning at home. There are a lot more of these home learning tools to come next year as my son starts to prepare for school. I share ideas about how to use my products with your children on my social media channels (@rebsville). Food is another big passion for me. We are all really into cooking and eating out in my family. I love to cook, and I cook to relax. I will spend hours wandering round food markets tasting and taking photographs. My Eat Collection is going to get bigger and bigger. I absolutely love interior design and am always painting my walls, redesigning our rooms and furniture and swapping around my big collection of artwork. I am not talking about a big collection of expensive paintings here. I frame wrapping paper, vintage magazine ads and I buy art prints that don't break the bank from small businesses like me. I want to make Rebsville Art Prints an affordable way to add some colour and interest to homes everywhere.

How do you tend to work?

Until I had my son four years ago, my working hours were long and erratic. I'd work for 2-3 weeks until late at night, meet my deadline, take a few days off, then start again. When I became a mum, life turned upside down, my priorities changed and I had to find a new way of working. Now I work three long days when my son is at nursery and chunks of time in between. I take on smaller commissions with shorter deadlines. I built a studio in my garden to make a physical break between home and work life. I don't say yes to everything. I started Rebsville thinking it would be a good focus for the gaps in between jobs and it has become such a passion it is hard to switch off! Creative inspiration doesn't adhere to my more structured working hours. I have notebooks and bits of paper everywhere with scribbles of ideas that I get when I'm building train tracks or in the playground. I send voice notes to myself and write reminders on my phone if I'm out and about. I need to get it all down so I can go back to being in the moment with my son. I really miss working on something for days on end, but I also adore being a mum to my son, so it is a constant battle to try to find the happy medium which I know a lot of people can relate to. In some ways I have more balance in my life since becoming a mum as it's not all work!

How can someone work with you on a bespoke project?

There is nothing better than collaborating with someone on a piece of art. I like to think that I can be anyone's personal artist so if you have an idea I know I can bring it to life. I have been making bespoke maps for about ten years. They are wonderful gifts to mark a significant occasion and are basically a personalised 'map of your life so far'. People get so excited about seeing their own lives and adventures as an illustration and it becomes a piece of their family's history that they can pass down to next generations.

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product for this Christmas which is a Portrait Voucher. With the voucher you receive a pack of sample portraits postcards and the recipient can choose what sort of portrait they would like, such as their home, their pet or their family. It has been really well received so far and I can't wait to get started on them in the new year.

How long have you lived in Herne Hill for now?

I can't quite believe it but it is nearly 20 years! It's the longest I have ever lived anywhere. Being part of the local community has been pivotal in the development of my illustration career. I was working in bars and restaurants in Brixton and Herne Hill from my early 20s until I started working full time as an illustrator about nine years ago. So I made a lot of local friends and contacts. Word of mouth and over-the-bar conversations led to being asked to design the Herne Hill Forum Logo, their 'Say no to unwanted bags' campaign shopping bag and the 'Welcome to Herne Hill Map'. I also made promotional illustrations for the Half Moon Pub, Pullens Dining Room and Elaine the Flower Lady. I did a sign writing apprenticeship and added to Olley's signage and created one for Cafe Provencal. It's amazing to see the Herne Hill Forum bags still being toted around ten years later and my work around me as I walk around Herne Hill. I try to do one job a year for a charity and this year it is local too. I am illustrating a Tree Trail Map for The Friends of Ruskin Park, which will be available next year. Herne Hill is a wonderful place to live and work.

Are you looking forward to the Dulwich College Christmas Fair on 25 November? And the Herne Hill Christmas Market on 1 December?

I cannot wait! I work alone in my studio a lot so these are such great events to meet people and get important feedback on what I am doing. I always go to the fair at Dulwich College – the interiors are amazing for a start, but the fair is huge and there are so many amazing small businesses to buy presents from. I can't wait to be a part of it this year. The Herne Hill Christmas Fair will mark one year of Rebsville business for me so I am going to make it a celebration! Unlike Dulwich College, it is outside so I'm thinking music to dance to and a few hot toddies.

Is there a real artistic community in the area?

I am a member of a creative business group called 'Studio Circle'. We are a dozen south London artists, illustrators, photographers, printmakers, jewellery and clothing designers running our own businesses. We share ideas and support each other's growth, but we are planning some interesting events for 2019. The Dulwich Artist Open House in May is when all the local creators open their doors and it's incredible how many there are in this area. It's so inspiring to visit and I love to shop directly with artists and am planning to take part myself in 2019.

Do you have grand plans for Rebsville?

My plans for next year are to keep growing my collections and start running some watercolour and printing workshops from my studio in Herne Hill. I miss teaching and will also be focusing on creating products for parents and carers to give support to their child's learning at home. I would love to start selling my prints in shops and galleries. Long term, I'd love to write and illustrate books, investigate opportunities for learning more about Art Therapy and collaborate with animators to make my illustrations move. Rebsville feels like a lifetime passion; my own space to explore all my creative ideas and get them out there. ■

Visit the Rebsville online shop – rebsville.com – where you can find the collections and take advantage of a 15% discount code. Enter RESIDENT15 at the checkout. For studio visits (Herne Hill) or to commission a bespoke piece of artwork email hello@rebsville.com

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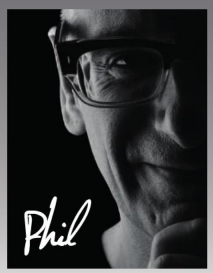

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HAPPY SMILES

Sparklysmile say 'make chums with your gums' and keep your teeth for life

Granted, they call themselves Sparklysmile because they know a beautiful beam not only makes you look and feel better, but encourages you to face the world with a more confident and pleasing disposition.

But, as progressive, dedicated 21st Century dentists, they know that beneath your pearly white smile there might be an underlying problem – gum disease. It's not necessarily a 'shock-horror' scenario, as in the case of gingivitis which, with a good oral hygiene regime, can be reversed by their team.

However, Sparklysmile's 'Make chums with your gums' initiative has been launched to help people understand how this invidious condition can creep up on you. Gum disease is often painless, caused by the action of bacteria accumulating in plaque that collects around teeth.

Gum problems may only become evident when your teeth become loose and sore. Early signs of gum disease are swollen and/or bleeding gums and sometimes a bad taste in the mouth or bad breath. Other things Sparklysmile look for are spaces beginning to appear between teeth, receding gums and a history of aching or abscesses.

There are two main types of gum disease – Gingivitis and Periodontitis. The first is reversible but the second is irreversible. At Sparklysmile they do the utmost to stabilise the latter condition and prevent it from worsening and you can still keep your teeth if you catch it in time.

Sparklysmile's hygienist team, Bernadette and Esther, who've been with them for more than a decade, are their secret weapons. And this October they were reunited with Tracey who worked in the practice, firstly as a dental nurse in the 1980's, then as a hygienist in the 90's and early 2000's before moving away for a while.

The Sparklysmile angels will make sure that your gums have never been better cared for. And if you are scared of seeing a dentist, you don't even need to be registered at Sparklysmile these days and can book to see their hygienists directly to find out what is going on and get you on the road to healthy gums and fresh breath.

Book an appointment, 'make chums with your gums' and become best friends with your hygienists. r

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THE GREAT ESCAPE

Got the winter blues? A weekend stay at glorious Ellenborough Park will get you smiling again

Words: VICKY MAYER

If you've ever harboured a fantasy of living in a grand country house, Ellenborough Park is the perfect destination. Located just across from the famous Cheltenham Racecourse, this gorgeous honey-coloured country house hotel is situated in its own 90-acre grounds.

It's the perfect spot for stressed-out Londoners to decamp for a weekend and kick back and relax. The setting is really spectacular, the rooms are a very generous size and the hotel's restaurant serves Michelin-style fare.

On our visit we got to stay in one of the amazing suites that have been decorated by top interior designer Nina Campbell. Our suite, situated on the ground floor with jaw-dropping views over the grounds and down to the race course, is decorated in great gothic style with an amazing draped four poster bed dominating the room. It's so big that there's room for a lounge area too and an enormous marble-clad bathroom, complete with deep bath for lovely winter soaks. It's such a comfy room that while we were there we had the inevitable 'shall we just have room service' conversation before coming to our senses and booking for dinner at the in-house restaurant.

Before dinner guests at Ellenborough Park should stop off for a cocktail at the hotel's lively bar, The Horse Box, where two expertly mixed vodka martinis whetted our appetites. The restaurant is situated in a beautifully panelled room with views out to the grounds. Whatever season you visit in, the view is bound to be spectacular. The menu here is well considered with great seasonally-led choices. Stand out dishes for us were the perfectly cooked venison and delicate sea trout, accompanied by wines by the glass expertly recommended by the maitre'd. Nearby Cheltenham is packed with great restaurants, but if you're staying at the hotel it's really worth eating here if only to sample my new favourite dessert, the decadent violet meringue. The walk back to our room took a mere 30 seconds and looking out to a star-lit vista, it's easy to imagine yourself here as Lady (or Lord) of the Manor.

Cheltenham with its interesting mix of independent shops, great Georgian architecture and art galleries is a quick 10 minute ride away, but if like us you're determined to relax a bit, Ellenborough Park provides the perfect pit stop. In the summer, guests can splash around in the outdoor pool, while in the cooler months, a walk around the well kept estate is the perfect place to enjoy a bit of fresh, unpolluted air. Guests are encouraged to borrow binoculars, boots and jackets from the hotel, free of charge. Kitted up you'll really feel part of the country set and if you get the time, you should also treat yourself to a massage or facial at the spa where the expert staff use Scottish Ishga seaweed and Cotswold Ila products to great effect.

After a hearty home-cooked breakfast, we spent a couple of hours holed up in the comfy atrium lounge reading the Sunday papers before reluctantly heading home. We may have only stayed one night but we arrived home feeling very chilled out thanks to the positive effects of staying at this wonderful hotel. ■

Rooms at Ellenborough Park start at £209 per room based on two sharing including breakfast. 01242 545454; ellenboroughpark.com

UNDER THE DOMES

Venture a little further west to Crete's lesser known gem of Chania to enjoy sun, sea and a whole lot of relaxation

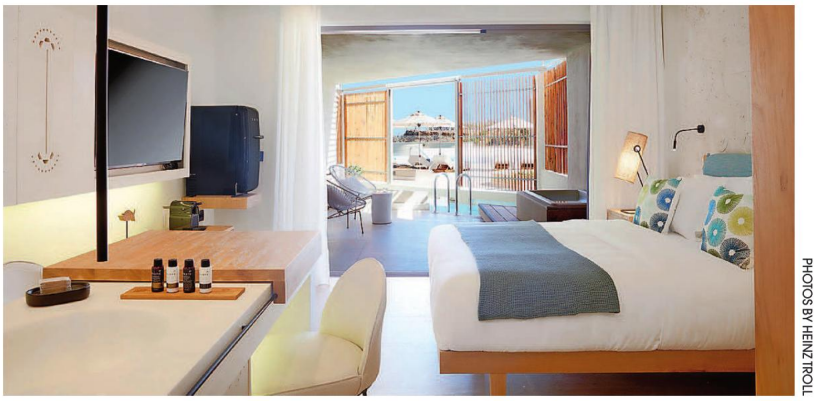
Words: FAY WATSON

While Chania is probably the lesser known sibling of Heraklion, the capital of Greece's largest island Crete, it is most certainly not the inferior. Built on the ancient site of Kydonia, the region has had an extensive history of occupations from the Byzantines, Venetians and the Ottoman Empire, which bleeds into the city's eclectic architecture. This can be seen from a short wander through the city's Old Town with its dome-topped mosque sat on the waterfront and the imposing Venetian lighthouse looming over the skyline. But perhaps what makes the area such a special place to visit is that this rich heritage is coupled with its location near some of the island's most famed beaches. And just a 25 minute drive east of the airport, Domes Noruz is the perfect spot to enjoy both.

Part of Marriott's Autograph Collection, the adult-only boutique hotel is a hidden gem built literally on one of Chania's beautiful beaches. From the moment we arrived at the resort and were greeted with a specially brewed 'wellness juice', it felt as though we'd been whisked into another dimension. This is particularly the case thanks to the otherworldly design of the resort, which looks like it came straight out of *Star Wars* (and I mean that in the best possible way) thanks to its desert-shade domes.

The wonderful design carries on through the selection of apartments on offer, from the poolside plunge pools of the Sublime Loft to the private houses of the Ultimate Haven. We stayed in the Wellness Lodge, a two-storey loft complete with two terraces to enjoy a view of the sea and looking on towards the island of Agioi Theodoros.

It had all the amenities you could want from a room, as well as some innovative extras including mood lighting



PHOTOS BY HEINZ TROLL

TRIP NOTES
Rooms at Domes Noruz start from €146 (approx £129) per night based on 2 sharing, on a room-only basis.
domesnoruz.com

adjustments and a slightly perplexing pillow menu. The highlight of the space was the terrace hot tub, which was the perfect spot to relax in privacy with a glass of red wine and enjoy the stunning surrounds at sunset. In fact my partner had a hard time getting me off of the terrace, as I was completely transfixed by the view and the utter sense of peace it evoked. And this for me was the crux of what is so great about Domes Noruz – it's a perfect place to switch off from outside stresses and settle into tranquillity and relaxation. It was wonderful to spend a few days meandering between the two pools, down to the stunning beach, with a cocktail in one hand and a book in the other.

And when a bit of late season rain set in, the Soma Spa had us covered. We enjoyed 15 minute massages with Elemis products that we could have kept enjoying for a whole lot longer. But the draw of the spa pool, hammam, sauna, as well as complimentary juice and fruit in the main spa was also a bit too much to resist.

This is a resort undoubtedly all about relaxation, but there's also very little excuse to not take advantage of the fitness facilities, with a small but well-equipped gym as well as daily classes and activities. One of the highlights of my trip was my morning yoga and pilates class listening to the waves crash on the beach (even when our zen was gatecrashed by one of the area's absolutely adorable stray kittens). And if you're feeling a bit adventurous you can head like we did to the nearby beach to hire boards and enjoy a morning surfing – attempting to in my case.

To balance the activity, there are unlimited opportunities to enjoy a little bit of overindulgence with the resort's Zeen restaurant, which we frequented for a buffet breakfast that is well worth it and lunch enjoyed on the beach. At night the place transforms for fine dining under the watchful eyes of Dionissis Pliatsikas, who has also crafted great dinner options – my meal of a divine homemade bread basket, tender Aegean Croaker and even a chocolate-covered Cretan banana was a full-on feast.

If you fancy getting out, there are a few local restaurants which offer up some typical Greek fare and a short trip into Chania will give you an abundance of options. The Old Town is a 20 minute bus or taxi drive away, so you can enjoy the rich heritage of the centre as well as its lively restaurant and bar culture. Head far into the back streets and away from the tourist traps and you'll find wonderful boutique art shops, as well as unique places to enjoy some Greek salad and an obligatory glass of Raki whatever time of day it is. Our only regret was not hiring a car and making the most of the beautiful island, but if you do there are plenty of places to enjoy nearby like the Samaria Gorge and the pink sands of Elafonissi Beach.

As an escape from reality, you won't get much better than Domes Noruz for a relaxing spot to enjoy the sun and the sea, as well as the nearby culture. And during these long winter months, I can guarantee I'll be thinking about that sunset for a long time. ■

THE CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Should we still teach children the true traditions and values of the festive season?

Words: ALISHA DAVIS

Everyone loves Christmas – children even more so. There's something about this day that when looked through a child's eyes seems almost magical. It's a day where families come together, giving presents to one another and enjoying a hearty meal. But are we allowing the values and traditions of Christmas to be overshadowed by material expectations? The need to have the next best thing seems to be overtaking the teachings to children of values that have been instilled in many of us. But how can we make sure these traditions don't disappear?

If you ask any child what they love about Christmas Day, answers will most definitely include receiving gifts. However, the older generation's answers may well be different, with many stating an enjoyable day with loved ones is what they look forward to the most. Teaching these festive values is simple and can be tailored to individual family needs. Mention that church bells are rung at midnight to signal the beginning of the Christmas celebration and at the start of midnight mass, which is a hugely important to the Catholic and Christian faith.

Teaching about traditions doesn't have to be limited to just your own. Discovering how other cultures and religions celebrate the festive season can make it even more interesting for your child. Discuss how other religions have different celebratory festivals such as the Hindu festival Diwali and the Muslim holiday Eid.

Schools around the UK will undoubtedly stage their own nativity scene, so this is the perfect time to learn how it's celebrated in other countries. In Italy, for example, the famous nativity crib scene is hugely important and they wait to put the figure of the baby Jesus in the scene on Christmas Eve. When your child comes home with a part in the traditional nativity play, tell them why their part is important. Something so simple helps keep the traditions alive.

Then there is food (which many will also undoubtedly link to Christmas). Describe to your little ones how in Norway their version of Christmas pudding is a special bread called 'Julekake'. Or perhaps mention how a grand market is held on Christmas Eve in Jamaica, and why in Japan KFC has become such a tradition.

'When your child comes home with a part in the traditional nativity play, tell them why their part is important'

It is our responsibility to ensure we are instilling priceless values and traditions, so allow your children to fully discover the true essence of this holiday. It may even make you open your eyes to the true meaning of Christmas.

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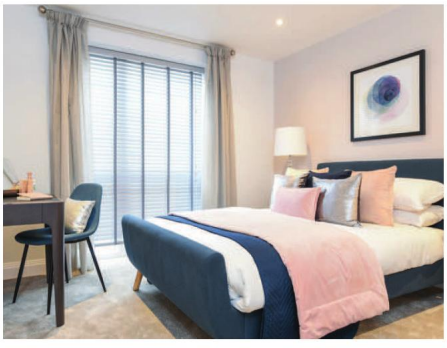

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Camborne Row, Liskeard Gardens, Blackheath is on the market for £2.2m; savills.com

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Sales

Beckenham £899,995 F/H

PART EXCHANGE WELCOME. Five bedroom detached house situated in a premier residential location, within easy reach of both New Beckenham and Beckenham Junction mainline stations offering frequent services to central London. This property is offered to the market in excellent condition and decorated in neutral tones throughout. Energy Efficiency Rating C.

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Located on the first floor of an exclusive gated development, is this expansive three bedroom modern apartment in excellent condition throughout. Both Bickley and Chislehurst train stations are located under one mile away and Bromley Town Centre is one mile away offering a host of shops, bars and restaurants. Energy Efficiency Rating B.

BROMLEY 020 8315 5544

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Beckenham £2,400 PCM

Offered to the market unfurnished is this stunning three bedroom terraced town house. Located in the Langley Park development with 24 hour manned security, this property is an ideal family home. The development also benefits from falling into the Langley Park and Unicorn schools catchment. Available now. Energy Efficiency Rating C.

BECKENHAM 020 8663 4433

Beckenham £3,100 PCM

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BROMLEY 020 8315 5544

Sales

Chislehurst £1,250,000 F/H

Located in the Marlings Park area of Chislehurst and close to Chislehurst Common, is this 1930's five bedroom detached house. Arranged over three floors, the property comprises spacious entrance hall with study area, reception room with open fireplace, fitted Stoneham kitchen with integrated appliances, breakfast/dining room, family room and conservatory. Energy Efficiency Rating E.

CHISLEHURST 020 8295 4900

Farnborough Park £1,250,000 F/H

Built in the early 1930's, this property has been owned by the same family for 55 years and is one of the few remaining original houses in the exclusive private estate, Farnborough Park. A treasured family home offering potential to be remodelled and updated in keeping with family living requirements of today. Energy Efficiency Rating D.

LOCKSBOTTOM 01689 882 988

Lettings

Chislehurst £1,400 PCM

Recently refurbished two bedroom Victorian semi-detached house located in the heart of Chislehurst. The property comprises new bathroom, new kitchen, two reception rooms and two double bedrooms and includes off street parking, new carpets, double glazing and a low maintenance garden. The property is offered unfurnished and available now. Energy Efficiency Rating E.

CHISLEHURST 020 8295 4900

Locksbottom £3,000 PCM

Stunning five bedroom, four bathroom family home within the school catchment for Outstanding Ofsted Darrick Wood, St Olaves and Newstead. Located in a highly desirable location with an array of amenities that include restaurants, bars, tea shops, supermarkets, health and beauty and with Orpington Station close by. Offered unfurnished and available 28th December. Energy Efficiency Rating C.

LOCKSBOTTOM 01689 882 988

Sales

Orpington £950,000 F/H

Refurbished five bedroom, two bathroom detached house located in one of the most sought after parts of Orpington. The high street is at the end of the road and offers an array of shops, restaurants and cinema complex whilst Orpington Station is also within walking distance. Local schools include Perry Hall, Crofton, Harris Academy, St Olaves and Newstead Woods. Energy Efficiency Rating D.

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Lettings

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West Wickham £2,450 PCM

Fabulous five bedroom 1920's semi-detached family home. The property is set in an ideal location for Ofsted Outstanding Pickhurst and Highfield primary schools and Langley Park secondary, as well as West Wickham Station (0.9miles) and also Bromley South (1.1miles). Available now and offered unfurnished. Energy Efficiency Rating D.

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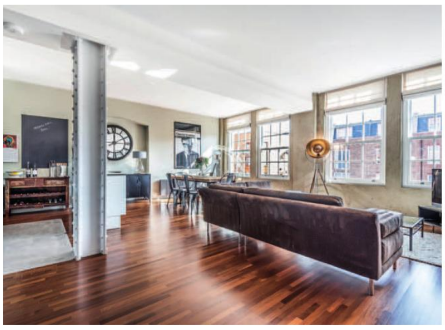

Green Walk, London Bridge SE1

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One reception
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HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

London living over the festive period is hard to beat

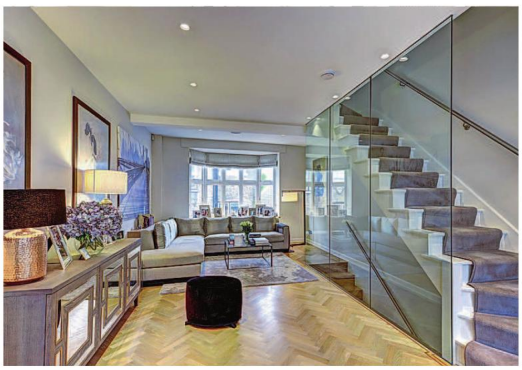
Words: FIONA BRANDHORST

As the festive season begins, the appeal of living in the capital takes centre stage. A home at The Mansion by Clivedale at the heart of the action in uber-cool Marylebone has it all. The residents of this boutique collection of 23 luxury apartments will adore the hand-picked, in-house services via the 24/7 concierge. The Queen's grocer Fortnum & Mason will deliver all the ingredients for Christmas lunch and there's a chauffeur-driven Bentley for local trips if a smattering of snow threatens to stop play.

Designed with the traditional redbrick Marylebone mansion house in mind complete with contemporary fireplaces, there's plenty of in-house relaxing at The Mansion including a 25-metre subterranean swimming pool and treatment rooms with on-call therapists from wellbeing and luxe spa brand Bamford. Just seven apartments remain with prices from £4.95m.

In a quiet square off Kensington High Street and close to the Albert Hall is De Vere Cottage, a period three bedroom terraced home with a contemporary interior arranged around a secluded courtyard. It features the ultimate Christmas guest pleaser of an impressive spiral wine cellar quirkily built into the kitchen floor. Perfectly

ABOVE: The roof terrace at The Liberty Building, and inside



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Exterior of De Vere Cottages, Lillie Square, No 3 Canalside Walk, inside and out of The Mansion, and inside De Vere Cottages

positioned for last minute shopping and spacious enough for overnight guests with two reception rooms and three bathrooms, the mews house is available through Hamptons International for £2.95m.

London's first floating pocket park at the heart of Merchant Square is a few minutes' walk from the refurbished Paddington station and will be the focus of outdoor Christmas events for residents living in the new apartments lining a stretch of the Regent's Canal. Free movie nights, a gin bar and an increasing number of eateries are putting this well-connected enclave on the map. The final phase of apartments at No 3 Canalside Walk, best viewed from a hired Go Boat while enjoying a glass or two of fizz, has just been launched. The residents' rooftop Observatory features a lounge with amazing views of the capital, an outdoor gym and terrace. Prices start from £1.2m for a two bedroom apartment.

West Brompton Crossing with pop up shops and restaurants will create a further buzz for residents moving into Lillie Square in time for Christmas. The residents-only clubhouse is designed to rival the finest five-star hotel offering a private dining room where residents can store vintage wines, a swish lounge and BYO bar, cinema room ideal for Christmas karaoke nights or an intimate screening of *White Christmas*. The deluxe health spa features a swimming pool, steam room, sauna and treatment rooms including one for spray tans.

The newly launched three-bedroom penthouse at the top of One Lillie Square on the 14th and 15th floor with an expansive terrace on the 16th floor, offers impressive views from west to east of London's skyline. Prices at Lillie Square start from £820,000 for a one bedroom apartment with the penthouse priced at £8.9m.

The Liberty Building at Limeharbour is three stops from Canary Wharf where Christmas is celebrated in style with an outdoor ice rink, Winter Fashion Weekend, five malls of shops, restaurants and an Everyman Cinema with a curated film schedule. Each of the apartments in the flagship 26-floor tower from Telford Homes offers a private balcony and views towards Canary Wharf or The O2 and Greenwich. The penthouse is across the 24th and 25th floors with a huge roof terrace overlooking Canary Wharf, priced at £2.5m. A 24-hour concierge and residents-only gym are included with only 34 apartments left for sale with prices from £785,000 and completions this Christmas.

Present shopping and eating out along East Dulwich's Lordship Lane comes into its own at Christmas. Property In is selling a three bedroom Edwardian apartment, within a few minutes' walk of the action, boasting a stunning roof terrace perfect for cosy drinks parties and a bird's eye view of the capital's New Year's Eve fireworks. Offers in excess of £650,000. Merry Christmas! r

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BENHILL ROAD, SE5 £725,000

A delightful two bedroom Victorian home awaits your perusal. The interior has been lovingly renovated to supply spacious, sympathetic accommodation over two lovely floors. The property consists of a large double reception, generous kitchen/diner, two double bedrooms, modern bathroom and a separate wc.

CONSORT ROAD SE15 £600,000 OIEO

Be a part of Peckham's vibrant Art landscape with this spectacular two bedroom period conversion. Featuring a mural by 'Faith 47' on the gable wall, the property is listed on Google Arts and Culture and in numerous art publications including. Inside you'll be as impressed by incredibly spacious accommodation comprising reception, separate eat-in kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom and large storage cellar.

CAMBERWELL NEW ROAD, SE5 £550,000

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HOWBURY ROAD, SE15 £750,000

This tidy and bright three bedder comes complete with generous lounging and dining space and a nicely sized rear garden. The property has planning permission in place for a fabulous double height rear extension? How exciting!

WOOSTER & STOCK

CAMBERWELL GROVE, SE5 £2,000,000

A Grade II listed Regency four bed beauty. Generously arranged over four bright and tasteful floors, the accommodation sprawls to comprise a huge double reception, kitchen, dining room, four beautiful double bedrooms (master en suite), bountiful bathroom, wc and utility room.

BRAYARDS ROAD, SE15 £785,000

A generous living area, large kitchen/diner and three lovely double bedrooms - this won't stick around! Enjoying a sympathetic finish throughout, this well placed period home will answer all your requirements. A decent sized rear garden with decked patio, lawn and shed is the cherry on the cake.

CORMONT ROAD, SE5 £600,000

This parkside two bedroom loft style pad will knock your socks off. Majestic ceilings, ubiquitous double height original windows, white wash oak flooring and any amount of quality fixtures and elegant fittings? It's a home for entertaining and showing off!

GROVE HILL ROAD, SE5 £475,000

Spread over the top two floors of a handsome Victorian building, this quirky one bedder offers a stylish living environment. Crisp, neutral decor, a slick modern bathroom and smart contemporary kitchen make for a winning combo. In addition to a decent sized double bedroom, you further benefit from an entirely versatile loft room.

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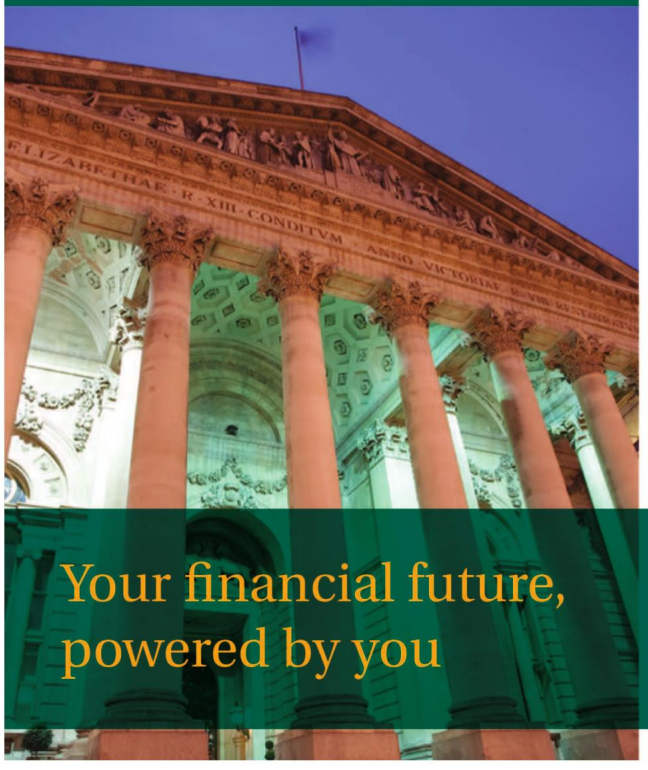

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BE IN THE KNOW

Why it is sometimes best to do nothing

Words: AKWASI DUODU

What causes stock market crashes? The stock market has crashed several times throughout history. There was the infamous Great Crash of 1929 – the worst market decline in US history where the Dow Jones lost 25%. Then there was Black Monday in 1987, which started in Hong Kong and spread worldwide, where the UKs FTSE 100 share index fell by 22%. That was miserable. Then there was the dot com bubble on 11 March 2000, which took two years to recover from. More recently, we've had the financial crisis of 2008, which started with Lehmans Brothers going bust and contagion thereafter.

In between all of these, we have surges in stock prices, known as bull markets and market corrections where prices fall, known as bear markets. After a bull market, investors, stockbrokers and fund managers sometimes sell to realise their gains. When a lot of people do this at the same time, it can cause a market sell-off, which can in turn cause a downwards market correction. When everyone is selling, prices go down as states the law of supply and demand.

So why am I talking about this? Well, the UK stock market has recently had a correction and many of our clients are asking us what they should do. Here are six things to be aware of:

1. STOCK MARKET CORRECTIONS HAPPEN OFTEN

The first thing you should know is that stock market corrections happen – and fairly often. As worldwide economies peak and trough over time, the stock market will also have its peaks and troughs. According to research conducted by Deutsche Bank, the stock market, on average, has a correction once a year. While many investors, especially those new to stock investing simply aren't used to experiencing swings like these, corrections are an inevitable part of stock ownership, and there's nothing you can do as an individual investor to stop a correction from occurring.

2. THEY DON'T LAST

In a broader context, while a stock market correction is an inevitable part of stock ownership, corrections last for a shorter period of time than bull markets. Based on research conducted on the Dow between 1945 and 2013, the average correction (which worked out to 13.3%) lasted a mere 71.6 trading days.

3. THEY ARE UNPREDICTABLE

Stock market corrections may be inevitable, but one thing they aren't is predictable. Stock market corrections could come about within any time frame (every few months or after multiple years), and they can be caused by a variety of issues. For instance, we now know the impetus for the Great Recession was the bursting of the housing bubble caused by an implosion of subprime mortgages. But, how many people were echoing that subprime was a problem in 2006 or 2007? The answer is very few people were.

4. THEY ONLY MATTER IF YOU'RE A SHORT-TERM INVESTOR

Another important point you should realise is that stock market corrections really aren't an issue if you remain focused on the long term. Corrections are more uncomfortable for shorter term investors, who may have to switch their strategy to long term to make up for their losses.

5. THEY PRESENT AN OPPORTUNITY

For the long-term investor or a fund manager, a stock market correction is often a great time to pick up high-quality companies at attractive valuations. While trying to time a market bottom is generally a bad idea, a market correction can be a great time to add stocks to your portfolio that could make excellent long-term investments, but that previously seemed a bit too expensive.

6. THEY ARE A GOOD REMINDER TO REASSESS THINGS

As noted above, a dip in stocks isn't necessarily a bad thing as it could give you or your fund manager the opportunity to buy quality stocks at bargain prices. It is also a good time to reassess your risk profile, your long-term goals and financial objectives. Generally, the best thing to do after a stock market correction is... nothing.

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- Balance Of NHBC Guarantee
- Opportunity To Lease 1.3 Acre Paddock
- STAMP DUTY PAID
- EPC Rating: B

£650,000

SANDWICH

Spectacular Medieval Hall House

- Grade II Listed
- Exceptional Period Features Throughout
- Highly Versatile Layout Over Three Floors
- Three/Four Bedrooms
- One/Two Reception Rooms
- Beautiful Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Immaculately Presented Throughout
- Extremely Private Courtyard Garden
- Situated In The Heart Of Sandwich

£595,000

HERNHILL

Substantial Detached Georgian Residence

- Formerly A Pair Of Semi Detached Cottages
- Ideal For Two Families Living Together
- Grade II Listed With Much Character
- Four Bedrooms - Four Reception Rooms
- Two Kitchens - Two Bathrooms
- Triple Aspect Garden Room
- Half An Acre Of Beautifully Planted Gardens
- Extremely Sought After Village Setting
- Magnificent Views Over Beautiful Countryside

£675,000

DOVER

Attractive Semi Detached House

- Built By Pentland Homes In 2014
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Sitting Room & Victorian Style Conservatory
- Immaculately Presented Throughout
- Large Driveway & Double Width Plot
- Balance Of NHBC Guarantee
- Situated In An Exclusive Development
- No Chain
- EPC Rating: B

OIEO £250,000

WHITSTABLE

Detached 1920's Family House

- Beautifully Presented And Updated
- Four Good Size Bedrooms
- About 500m To Tankerton Slopes And Beach
- Large Single Garage And Off Road Parking
- Secluded Rear Garden
- Corner Plot Location
- Generous Size Accommodation
- Less Than A Mile To The Station
- EPC Rating: D

OIEO £525,000

SELLING

Stunning End Of Terrace Period Oast

- Newly Converted To A High Specification
- Extremely Elegant & Stylish Interior
- Versatile Accommodation Over Three Floors
- Four Bedrooms - Three Bathrooms
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£600,000

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Hitherwood Drive, West Dulwich SE19

- Beautiful living and entertaining space
- Impressive open plan kitchen/breakfast room
- Lovely views onto the leafy garden

Hitherwood Drive is a quiet residential enclave located just off College Road. It is very well situated for Dulwich Village with its excellent schools, and is particularly close to DUCKS, Dulwich Prep London and Dulwich College. The nearest stations are Sydenham Hill and Gipsy Hill with direct services to London Bridge, London Victoria and London Blackfriars (morning and evening only).

Guide price
£1,495,000
Freehold

Our Dulwich expert, Mitchell Murphy,looks forward to helping you.

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HARVEY & WHEELER

ESTABLISHED 1855

BURBAGE ROAD SE24

£1,650,000 Sole Agents

A four bedroom family house with an open aspect to the rear overlooking playing fields, very well located for the amenities and schools of both Dulwich Village & Herne Hill. The house has been extended into the loft to give a fourth bedroom, a shower room and a separate WC. Overall there is a gross internal area of 1,605 sq ft (149 sq m). The accommodation, enjoying good natural light, is well laid out with a kitchen/dining room opening onto the wooden deck terrace and south east facing garden (105'7" x 120'8"). EPC Rating (D)

DESENFANS ROAD SE21

£1,475,000 Sole Agents

An attractive, well presented Edwardian semi-detached house on this desirable side road in Dulwich Village located close to all the Village amenities and schools. The property retains its period character and many features including fireplaces and the tiled hall floor. Overall there is a gross internal area of 1,523 sq ft (141.5 sq m). The house has been extended into the loft by the current owners to give a fourth bedroom with adjoining shower room/WC and there is scope for further extension subject to planning permission and consent from The Dulwich Estate.
EPC Rating (F)

Sole Agents ELMWOOD ROAD SE24

Sole Agents PECKHAM RYE SE22

Sole Agents HITHERWOOD COURT SE19

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HARVEY & WHEELER

ESTABLISHED 1855

COURT LANE SE21

£1,975,000 Sole Agents

A detached double fronted five bedroom family house in one of the best locations in Dulwich with extensive open views overlooking Dulwich Park at the rear. The property benefits from off street parking at the front and a large south facing rear garden approximately 183'11" deep x 39'5" wide (56 x 12m). The accommodation is arranged over two floors with a gross internal area of 1,852 sq ft (172 sq m). There may be scope to extend the property further (subject to any necessary consent) as the loft has not been developed.
EPC Rating (D)

COURT LANE SE21

£1,850,000 Sole Agents

An attractive five bedroom semi detached Victorian family house at the Dulwich Village end of Court Lane with a south west facing garden (102'9" x 19'0"). The property retains many period features. Currently with a GIA of 1,786 sq ft, there is planning permission and a Dulwich Estate licence to extend the property further at the rear (full details on request). Set back from the road with a gravel driveway providing off street parking, the house is conveniently located for the shops and restaurants in Dulwich Village.
EPC Rating (F)

GILKES CRESCENT SE21

£1,650,000 Sole Agents

Rarely available, a semi-detached house (linked by the garage) in one of the most sought after Dulwich Village roads superbly well located for all the Village amenities and schools. Built in the 1920s with a gross internal area of 1,620 sq ft, there is scope for modernisation, and extension subject to any necessary consent. There is a well planted west facing rear garden of 71'6" x 34'9" (22 x 11m). The nearest station is North Dulwich (Direct to London Bridge and two stops to Peckham Rye for the Overground and Docklands).
EPC Rating (E)

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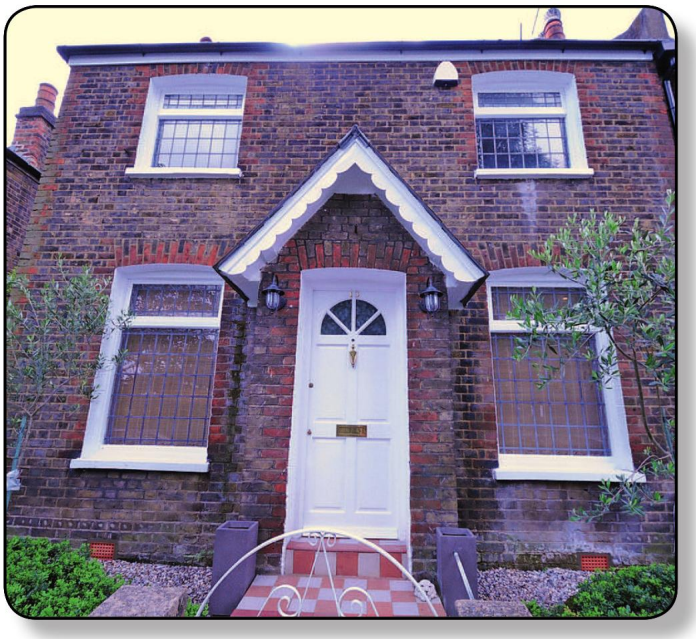
Combe Avenue , Blackheath, SE3
£550,000 Freehold

A pleasure to offer this three bedroom house currently configured as a two bedroom with extended bathroom, forming part of the ever sought after Vanbrugh Park Estate development built in 1962 and designed by the renowned architects Chamberlin, Powell & Bon. Open-plan living / dining / kitchen area with double doors open to pretty paved garden, modern bathroom. As with in all the houses on the estate, there is a solid-fuel stove incorporated into a heatsink designed as part of the staircase.



Lawn Terrace , Blackheath, SE3 £1850pcm

A charming, beautifully refurbished double fronted cottage in the heart of Blackheath village. The exquisite property comprises open plan living to ground floor with dividing staircase. Cast iron period fire place, dining area open to well designed, fitted kitchen with integrated appliances, corian worktops and breakfast bar. Modern bathroom suite with shower facility. Master bedroom with dual aspect windows, second double. Private pretty courtyard patio to rear.

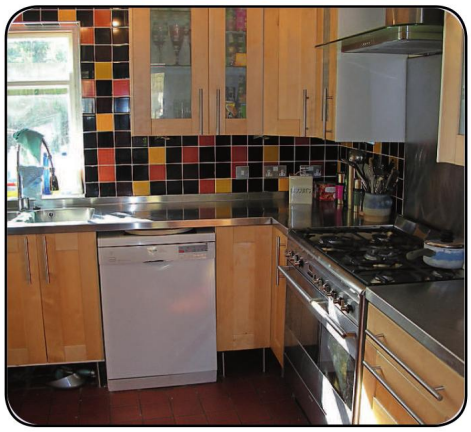
GreyLadies Gdns, Greenwich, SE10 £1600pcm

With its amazing position on the edge of the open heath and with private balcony this delightful 2 double bedrooms plus study room top floor apartment is a real find, just a short walk away from both Blackheath Village BR and Lewisham BR & DLR stations. Large lounge, kitchen/ diner, shower room, bathroom and w/c. Some of the many points to note include full gas central heating

heath
ESTATES

Effingham Road, Lee, SE12
£850,000 Freehold

A charming three bedroom Victorian terraced house located in a highly sought-after road within the Lee Conservation Area. The spacious accommodation which comprises of entrance hall, through lounge/diner, modern fitted kitchen/ breakfast room with doors open onto the garden, ground floor guest w/c. Family bathroom GCH, a well-maintained rear garden of over 60ft. The property is within proximity to both Hither Green and Lee train stations and in the catchment area of local schools including the 'Ofsted outstanding' Brindishe Lee and Brindishe Manor Schools.



Sundorne Road, Charlton, SE7
£800,000 Freehold

A substantial four-bedroom three story Victorian Villa comprising two reception rooms, Kitchen with door to good size rear garden, cellar. First floor 2 bedrooms, family bathroom w/c, separate second W/C. Semi landing leads to roof terrace and second floor two further large double bedrooms. Period features, potential to improve and extend and would benefit from some TLC having been in the rental market for a few years. New boiler 2018. Well located within a short stroll of central Charlton village and mainline station.

THE VILLAGE CENTRE

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SE3

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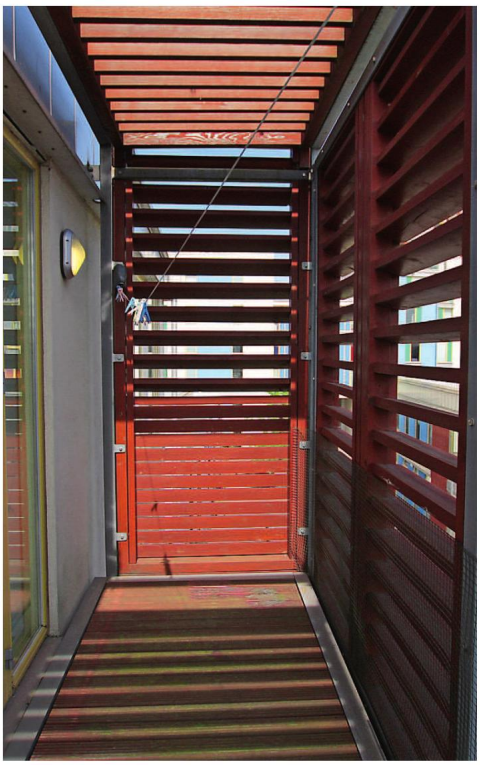

KILBY COURT, GREENWICH, SE10 £410,000

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BROOKWORTH HOMES

AVONDALE ROAD, BR1

£3,600 PCM

Beautifully presented 6 double bedroom house with garage and off-street parking. The house is on a sought-after road in Bromley and boasts reception room at front, double reception room at rear with doors leading to private 30 metre garden and fully fitted kitchen with granite worktops and Range cooker. The first floor offers 4 double bedrooms, family bathroom and separate shower room. The top floor provides two further double bedrooms.

A family firm owned and run by Jeremy Comber for the past 25 years, with over 40 years experience in the Blackheath and central London market.

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CHELSFIELD PARK, NR ORPINGTON, KENT

£2,750,000 FREEHOLD

A magnificent, architect designed detached house, built to exacting standards in 2013, providing massive 9583 sq ft accommodation, with a beautiful 120' x 80' south-west facing rear garden. It has a sweep-in cobbled driveway providing off-street parking, leading to an integral double garage.

The vast 7 bed / 6 bath family accommodation comprises an impressive entrance hall, an incredibly large 31' x 19' kitchen/day room, fitted with 'Great British Kitchen' units and fully integrated 'Neff'/'Miele' appliances incorporating a range cooker. It has a separate dining room, 29' x 18' main reception room with a working 'Inglenook' style fireplace and double doors through to the large library. The basement floor comprises a large snooker room with a full size 'Steve Davis' snooker table and a long bar area, open-plan through to a large cinema room with cinema sound and picture quality. There is also a heated swimming pool, cloakroom, sauna, Jacuzzi and gymnasium.

The large, mature rear garden measures 120' in length x 80' in width, and has the much favoured south-westerly aspect, mainly laid to lawn with shrub borders, a waterfall feature and rockery, large paved patio area and brick & tiled garden shed. It is located on the sought after Chelsfield Park, just a short distance from the A21 Sevenoaks Road, which provides speedy access to Jct 4 of the M25. Chelsfield mainline railway station is only 1/3rd of a mile away and provides a direct service into London Charing Cross and Sevenoaks.

THE ACCOMMODATION COMPRISES : Entrance Hall * Two Cloakrooms * Utility Room * Kitchen/Dayroom * Dining Room * Reception Room * Library * Snooker Room With Bar Area & Wine Cellar * Cinema * Gym * Swimming Pool * Jacuzzi * Sauna * Master Bedroom Suite * Six Further Double Bedrooms & Five Bathrooms * Double Garage * Landscaped South-West Facing Rear Garden.

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Weyman Road, SE3

Situated in a popular residential road and benefiting from a large rear garden and off-street parking.

£1,595 PCM

3 Bedrooms • 1 Bathroom • 1 Reception • EER E

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River Gardens Walk, SE10

A contemporary apartment located on the fifth floor of the popular Granite Apartments Development.

£2,000 PCM

2 Bedrooms • 1 Bathroom • 1 Reeption • EER B

East Greenwich 020 3846 1414

King George Street, SE10

An attractive neo-Georgian town house with secure underground parking and close to The Royal Park.

£2,800 PCM

3 Bedrooms • 3 Bathrooms • 1 Reception • EER C

West Greenwich 020 8858 9911

Chevening Road, SE10

Located on this popular residential road is this immaculately presented Victorian terrace house.

£2,500 PCM

5 Bedrooms • 2 Bathrooms • 2 Receptions • EER D

East Greenwich 020 3846 1414

Wharf Street, SE8

Contemporary apartment situated within the sought after Paynes and Borthwick riverside development.

£1,675 PCM

2 Bedrooms • 2 Bathrooms • 1 Reception • EER B

West Greenwich 020 8858 9911

Somerset Gardens, SE13

Situated on the Lewisham and Brockley Conservation border is this well presented family home.

£2,700 PCM

4 Bedrooms • 2 Bathrooms • 1 Reception • EER D

Lee Office 020 8852 8633

Church Terrace, SE13

Beautiful and spacious top floor conversion flat on the outskirts of Blackheath Village.

£1,675 PCM

2 Bedrooms • 1 Bathroom • 1 Reception • EER D

Blackheath Village 020 8318 1311

Station Crescent, SE3

A spacious maisonette in Westcombe Park and in the catchment area for an 'Ofsted Outstanding' school.

£1,350 PCM

2 Bedrooms • 1 Bathroom • 1 Reception • EER E

Blackheath Standard 020 8858 6101

Granville Park, SE13

A beautifully finished apartment on the ground floor of this stunning period building.

£1,550 PCM

2 Bedrooms • 1 Bathroom • 1 Reception • EER D

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Glenluce Road, SE3

Occupying the entire first floor and benefiting from many original features and a private garden.

Price £639,995 L/H

- Three Bedrooms
- One Bathroom
- One Reception
- EER E

Blackheath Standard 020 8858 6101

Admirals Gate, SE10

An attractive detached family home in the Ashburnham Triangle conservation area.

Price £1,400,000 F/H

- Five Bedrooms
- Three Bathrooms
- Two Receptions
- EER D

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Halstow Road, SE10

Immaculately presented home situated within the catchment area of an 'Ofsted Outstanding' school.

Price £995,000 F/H

- Four Bedrooms
- Two Bathrooms
- One Reception
- EER D

East Greenwich 020 3846 1414

Collins Street, SE3

A charming Victorian cottage in a sought-after location in the heart of Blackheath Village.

Price £825,000 F/H

- Two Bedrooms
- One Bathroom
- One Reception
- EER D

Blackheath Village 020 8318 1311

Micheldever Road, SE12

Superb Edwardian family home situated in arguably the best road in Lee Manor conservation area.

Price £1,350,000 F/H

- Four Bedrooms
- Two Bathrooms
- Three Receptions
- EER E

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